

Iraq brushes aside Iranian offer

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq brushed aside Tuesday an Iranian offer to hold direct peace talks if Baghdad withdrew its remaining troops from Iranian territory. Information Minister Latif Nassif Al Jassem said any proposal should be decided in the course of face-to-face negotiations. "The presence (of troops) on the ground is the result of eight years of fighting... and is subject to negotiations," he told Reuters. Iranian spiritual leader Ali Khamenei said Monday Tehran was ready for direct talks once opposing forces had withdrawn behind international borders. Iran says Iraqi troops still occupy 2,600 square kilometres of its territory one year after the ceasefire. "We are after concrete results, not speeches," Jassem said of Khamenei's statement, an apparent softening of Tehran's previous insistence on U.N. mediation in the peace talks which began after the guns fell silent last August. Jassem said Iran had gone back on an original agreement with U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to enter direct talks and resumed Tehran's procrastination.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تيمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الرائي

Jordan-Soviet talks 'fruitful'

AMMAN (J.T.) — Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Economic Affairs Tahir Al Masri returned to Amman Tuesday at the end of a week-long visit to Moscow where he led Jordan's side to a joint Soviet-Jordanian economic committee meeting. The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that Masri conducted fruitful talks with Soviet officials covering the question of rescheduling Jordan's debts to the Soviet Union and increasing the volume of Jordanian exported products to Soviet markets. It said that Jordan will be selling more of its phosphates to the Soviet Union, but gave no more details. According to Petra, the joint committee signed a protocol, paving the way for further cooperation between Amman and Moscow in economic and technical fields. Earlier, the agency reported that Masri and Soviet Minister of Foreign Economic Relations Constantin Katchev signed the protocol. Jordan's debts to the Soviet Union are estimated at \$1 billion, resulting mainly from Jordan's purchases of Soviet arms, according to the Associated Press which was quoting Masri before he departed to the Moscow meetings. Amman signed an air defence agreement with Moscow in 1985 after Washington blocked a deal for Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to the Kingdom.

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U.N. chief calls urgent Security Council meeting Beirut war spreads to new fronts

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Tanks and troops clashed on a new front north of Beirut Tuesday with Syrian forces and allied Lebanese militiamen probing the defences of Lebanon's besieged rightist enclave controlled by army commander Michel Aoun.

At the United Nations, Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar called Tuesday for an urgent Security Council meeting to halt the bloodshed in Lebanon, a U.N. spokesman announced.

The U.N. chief acted under a rarely-invoked provision of the U.N. Charter that empowers him to draw the council's attention to any matter threatening international peace and security.

Earlier Tuesday, Radio Monte Carlo, quoting diplomatic sources, reported from Amman that the U.N. chief was expected to call such a meeting.

In Damascus, Lebanese parties and militias backed by Syria or Iran said after a meeting they had formed an alliance to oust Aoun. "A unified front will emerge as a result of this meeting to rally all material and human resources to topple the agent regime led by Aoun's clique," said George Hawi, head of Lebanon's Communist Party.

"There is a national and Islamic Lebanese consensus which is blessed by Syria and Iran as well as the forces of the Palestine

National Salvation Front," he told reporters after the meeting, attended by the Syrian and Iranian foreign ministers.

The leaders of 16 factions, including Iranian-backed groups and Palestinian guerrillas, attended the parade as the state-run Damascus Radio pledged that Aoun "will be defeated not by the Syrian army, but by the nationalist and Muslim forces."

In the battle of Beirut, outnumbered rightist forces battled the Syrian army and allied forces with tanks and artillery along a 108-kilometre mountain front as Damascus mobilised its allies for what the rightists fear will be an all-out assault on their enclave.

Police said 19 people were killed and 99 wounded in the fighting across the southern, eastern and northern flanks of the Aoun enclave. By police count, 760 people have been killed and 2,045 wounded since the fighting erupted March 8.

Police said gunmen hammered a 45-kilometre coastline, tightening a blocking aimed at preventing arms and ammunition reaching Aoun's troops by sea.

The Syrians, who were reported meeting troops and Soviet-built T-72 tanks in the central mountains on the eastern flank of the beleaguered enclave, appeared to be seeking to stretch Aoun's forces, outnumbered at least 2-1.

As the guns were at work in Beirut, international pressure was building up on Damascus to halt the violence that Arab mediators have failed to



A family hides in an underground bomb shelter as fighting rages in Beirut

stop. Pope John Paul II, declared Lebanon was ravaged by what "I would call genocide," and urged Syria to stop the shelling.

Tuesday's clashes took place 40 kilometres north of Beirut at the opposite end of the Aoun enclave from Souq Al Garb, a ridge southeast of Beirut where Aoun's forces fought off a rare ground assault Sunday.

Reuters correspondent John Pollerton reported sporadic mortar fire continued at Souq Al Garb Tuesday. Aoun, meanwhile, issued a statement trying Lebanese living in what he described as Syrian-occupied areas of the country to join him in his anti-Syrian drive.

"I call on all Lebanese of different political affiliations and religious be-

liefs to unite and stop acting as cover for the Syrian occupier which is using them to try to show that the war is between Lebanese," he said.

Iraq promised Tuesday to keep helping Aoun. Information Minister Latif Nassif Al Jassem told Reuters: "We stress our backing for the government of Aoun and will give it all possible assistance."

Israeli warplanes meanwhile buzzed Palestinian refugee camps near the southern Lebanese port city of Sidon, Tuesday, drawing heavy anti-aircraft fire from guerrillas, police reported.

The Voice of the Nation radio in Beirut earlier reported the Israeli fighter-bombers hit targets near Sidon, 40 kilometres south of Beirut.

But police said the Israeli jets "did not attack."

France has dispatched a frigate armed with Exocet missiles to Lebanon to protect the French community and bolster its naval presence in the Eastern Mediterranean, the government said.

The Duquesne set sail from the port of Toulon at 7 a.m. (0500 GMT) to link up with two French ships already in the area, a statement said. King Hassan of Morocco discussed the crisis in Lebanon Tuesday with envoys from the Arab League and the French government, the official news agency MAP said.

He conferred at his seaside palace with Lakhdar Brahimi, Arab League

(Continued on page 2)

Elections set for Nov. 8

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan will go to the polls on Nov. 8, 1989, to elect a new Lower House of Parliament, Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Iba Shaker announced Tuesday.

In the announcement, carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Sharif Zaid said the Council of Ministers decided on the date and that the elections would be conducted under provisions stipulated in the amended Election Law of 1986.

Petra said the decision was in line with a Royal Decree issued on July 30, 1989, calling for elections in accordance with Article 17 of the Election Law.

Subsequent to the prime minister's announcement, Petra quoted Interior Minister Saleh Masa'deh as saying that nominations by candi-

dates for the elections would be accepted for a three-day period starting Oct. 14, 1989.

Committees entrusted with reviewing voter lists completed their tasks Tuesday, and the lists would be available for inspection and changes, if necessary, at the respective administrative governors' offices from Aug. 23 for one week, the minister said.

The review committee will inspect points raised by voters in relation to the lists and will issue their decision during the Sept. 6-12 period, the minister said.

According to Masa'deh, about one million voters have already registered their names (See related story on page 3).

Orders dinar dealings in occupied lands

PLO moves to help Jordanian economy

By Jamal Halaby
The Associated Press

AMMAN — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat has asked Palestinians to abandon Israeli shekels and use only Jordanian dinars in Arab markets of the Israeli-occupied territories, a senior PLO official said Tuesday.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the order was aimed at "boosting the troubled Jordanian economy."

He said it was issued "recently" to the United Leadership of the Uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"The order is aimed at strengthening the value of the Jordanian dinar, boosting the troubled Jordanian economy and foiling Israeli plans aimed at undermining the Palestinian steadfastness in the occupied territories," the official said in an interview with the Associated Press.

He said Arafat was due in Jordan "very soon, to review means of better economic cooperation and further PLO participation hand-in-hand with Jordan to help the Kingdom overcome its economic difficulties."

"Jordan's economic difficulties reflect negatively on the Palestinian economy and the steadfast-

ness of our people inside the occupied lands," the PLO official said.

Last week, the Jordanian government approved a PLO request to transfer the headquarters of the multi-million dollar Palestine National Fund (PNF), the PLO's treasury, to Jordan.

PLO and Jordanian officials said the move was aimed at helping Jordan "tackle an economic crisis and give the PLO a more efficient and convenient location to channel its money to the uprising."

Dinar continues to firm

Reuters adds: The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) told banks Tuesday it was ready to supply them with dollars at rates compatible with those of the free market where the Jordanian dinar continued to gain ground against the dollar.

Bankers said the CBJ informed them if it was ready to sell them dollars at a rate of 765 fils to the dinar with a ceiling of 770 fils, levels similar to those offered by the free market Tuesday.

But dealers said they were meeting all their dollar demand from the local market where over the past three days Jordanians have been dumping their dollars for dinars after the local currency

began firming following central bank involvement.

"For the first time in months I am not begging the Central Bank to give dollars to my bank," one dealer said.

"Dollar supply is outweighing demand because many people are selling their greenbacks for dinars and banks in the Gulf — the main source of hard currency for local banks — are also sending in money."

Dealers were buying the dollar at a range between 710 to 740 fils and selling it for 770, higher than Monday's buying rates of 720 to 750 and selling rates of around 780 and 805.

The Central Bank fixed the dinar at 595.2/601.2 fils on Tuesday, down on Monday's rates of 594.0/600.0 fils.

Tuesday's Central Bank offer to banks was the second in less than two weeks. On Aug. 3, it sold \$16.5 million to local banks at 815 fils and told them to sell at no more than 820 fils in a bid to keep the dinar trading between these two levels after it surged to 940 fils on the free market.

It also gave another \$10 million to banks selling at the official rate to help finance key imports like medicines, fees of Jordanians studying abroad and subsidised food staples.

Israelis kill Palestinian, try new action in Ramallah

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A Palestinian shot in a clash with the army near Nablus died of his wounds, and four other Palestinians were reported shot and wounded Tuesday in renewed confrontation with Israeli soldiers.

In Ramallah in the occupied West Bank, Israeli troops, reacting to a Palestinian firebomb attack, imposed a curfew, welded shut Arab stores and sealed off an alley, sources said Tuesday.

They said the measures signalled harsh action by the new West Bank commander, Major-General Yitzhak Mordechai, to try to quash the 20-month-old Palestinian uprising.

Arab merchants throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip closed their stores in accordance with a strike call by the fundamentalist Islamic resistance movement, Hamas, Palestinians said.

In Ramallah, troops stacked bricks at the entrance to the alley on Palestine Street where petrol bombs were thrown Monday, wounding four Israeli tax collectors travelling in a car. Troops imposed a curfew on the main commercial street and about 20 stores were welded shut until further notice.

Mordechai, 44, took command

this month of the army's central region, which includes the West Bank, bringing a reputation as an apolitical hardliner from his experience as head of southern command, which includes the Gaza Strip.

"He wants to show his intentions among our people but we should give them a chance to repent," Hussein told the AP.

Hussein said some Palestinians have mistakenly been killed as collaborators.

Hussein called for the uprising to be a "white revolution," meaning non-violent.

The Palestinian who was killed Tuesday was identified by an army spokeswoman as Ahmad Abdul Khaled Aynb, 23, of the Fara refugee camp near Nablus.

She said Aynb was shot in the back Monday when soldiers opened fire on youths who attacked an army patrol "at close range with large stones and concrete blocks." He died several hours later.

Several thousand residents raised Palestinian flags and chanted slogans at a funeral procession Tuesday for Aynb in the Fara camp where he lived 15 kilometres from Nablus.

wounded. One of the occupied territories' leading Palestinians, Faisal Al Hussein, called on activists in the uprising to stop killing Arabs suspected of collaborating with the Israeli occupation authorities and allow them to change their ways.

"We don't need collaborators among our people but we should give them a chance to repent," Hussein told the AP.

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U.S. reassures PLO on dialogue

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States, pledging to keep talking to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) despite deep policy differences, says it aims for a Middle East peace agreement that promotes Palestinian political rights.

A conciliatory statement issued Monday in Washington and Tunisia sought to repair the recent rift between the Bush administration and the mainstream Fatah group while also urging the PLO to approve an Israeli plan for elections and negotiations on limited autonomy.

The statement by U.S. Ambassador Robert Pelletreau said the United States seeks a settlement based on Israel giving up territory in exchange for peace. Also listed as "firm principles" in the U.S. statement were "security and recognition for Israel and Palestinian political rights."

The statement did not say how those rights would be expressed. "Our immediate task... is to find a practical means to translate these principles into political reality," it said.

"The Palestinians should have a chance to determine their own future in negotiations with Israel as well as to run their daily

affairs," said a U.S. official who requested anonymity.

Meanwhile, Richard Boucher, a U.S. State Department spokesman, pledged the United States would keep talking to the PLO.

"We don't expect a breakthrough in each particular meeting," Boucher said in announcing that talks begun last December had resumed in Tunisia. "It's an ongoing process."

Last week, U.S. State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said a statement adopted by Fatah, raised questions about the PLO's "commitment to accommodation, understanding and peace."

Delegates to a Fatah meeting in Tunisia had approved a resolution calling for "intensification of the armed struggle and all other forms of battle to put an end to the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories."

On Monday, the department took a different approach through both spokesmen Boucher and envoy Pelletreau.

Boucher said Pelletreau met in Tunisia with a PLO delegation headed by Yasser Abed Rabbo and again sought "a positive Palestinian response" to the Israeli election proposal.

Al Bashir hospital on surgical table with wrong diagnosis

By Suhair Obeidat
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Government hospitals — a term that is literally dreaded by the affluent, but the only resort for the poor — have always suffered a stigma of "inefficiency, carelessness and poor-quality services." Behind the facade of this stigma is the reality that some of these institutions do have excellent staff and equipment and offer high-standard services, but are burdened by the simple equation of heavier demand over supply in addition to problems posed by non-patients. Amman's Al Bashir hospital, popularly known as Ashrafiah hospital, is one of them.

"Al Bashir hospital has al-

ways been the victim of a bad image caused by harmful publicity by people who do not know the true story of the hospital," says the general director of the hospital, Dr. Yousef Issa.

"I am certain that more than just a handful of people would be surprised when they discover that apart from being a regular hospital, Al Bashir has a complete centre for radiation and nuclear medicine, equipped with sophisticated and up-to-date devices designed to cure cancer diseases besides other numerous functions," Issa said.

True enough, the centre is unique in both its specialty and the equipment it houses. The centre has a Theratron 780-C Cobalt 60 that rates 50th in the

world and a number nine Phoenit, in addition to a number of other devices. The \$1.5 million centre offers services to an average of 60 to 70 patients every day, some of them coming from neighbouring Arab countries.

"Such bulky devices with a very heavy load need constant maintenance and can easily break down. Yet spare parts are not available in the country and we have to send for them from the manufacturing companies. This leads to additional costs that the patients are not aware of because most of the treatment they receive is almost free of charge," according to the head of the radiation and nuclear medicine centre, Dr. Saucer Al Kayed.

Kayed noted that similar sessions do not cost less than \$200 in the United States and \$60 in Britain and pointed out that Al Bashir offers low service charges in almost every one of its departments and centres.

An endoscopy operation for

example, costs the patient JD 5 only, while in the private sector it costs JD 100.

The impression that one gets from talking to the staff of the hospital is very rosy in terms of the medical services it can offer. But, how best are the services presented to the public is a totally different question and several other related queries.

For instance, how long does a patient have to wait amid the crowds for his or her turn? An

average of two hours, comes the answer.

How does that compare with a private clinic? Well, it is an "occupational hazard, since Al Bashir is a government hospital and the demand for its services is much much higher when compared with a private institution, or another hospital along the lines of the University of Jordan Hospital or the King Hussein Medical Centre."

One of the ironic situations, though not devoid of humour, is that somehow people always see hearses driving in and out of the Al Bashir hospital with waiting families behind them. The impression one gets is "that we are overproducing deaths," commented a senior doctor who preferred anonym-

ity. "But, the truth is that by the very nature of our establishment — a referral hospital — all other institutions send their dead to Al Bashir prior to burial or transfer to a morgue in any other hospital," he said. "So, all these bodies that you find being taken away from Al Bashir are not necessarily our 'production'."

'Food smuggling'

As far as hospitals go, most visitors to Al Bashir can always find things to pick on, starting right at the main gate right through to its wards.

Learning ingenious ways to smuggle food into a hospital is not such a difficult task, for all

you have to do is go to the main gate and watch the hordes of people trying to get past the guards at the main gate and the hospital buildings.

The first comment one would hear is the guard thumping his chest and saying how smarter he was than the customs people at the airport or border points in foiling "smuggling" into the hospital. The claim is confirmed by senior staff.

"The other day we stopped a visitor who was trying to smuggle 'magloubch' in an innocent looking candy box," said Janset Manser, a public relations official at the hospital.

That is only the tip of the iceberg. Almost every member of the staff has a funny tale to tell, including one of a harm-

less-looking visitor who was caught trying to sneak in a thermos flask filled with "mulukiyeh."

'Sitting' hours

It is like a flood pouring in when the clock chimes the beginning of visiting hours and the milling crowds at the gate fight each other to get in. Once they get in, the staff hit the deck to face the worst part of their daily chores. Relatives of patients rush in and sit on the hospital beds, ignoring the nurses' pleas to come off the beds and make room for the patients to rest.

(Continued on page 2)

مكتبة الأمل

Israel holding Obeid under 'administrative detention'

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel is holding a Muslim cleric kidnapped from South Lebanon two weeks ago under "administrative detention" orders normally used to detain Palestinians without trial, the army said Tuesday.

The announcement of a detention order against Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid officially confirmed for the first time that Obeid was being held in Israel and not in the Israeli-controlled buffer zone in South Lebanon. But officials have not said where in Israel Obeid is held.

The military censor, meanwhile, has asked police to open an investigation into a report in the Sunday Times of London that said two of three Israeli soldiers missing in Lebanon are dead, said Eitan Haber, spokesman for Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

The Jerusalem Post daily reported Tuesday that an extensive investigation was underway to pinpoint the source of the Sunday Times report. Cabinet ministers will be investigated as well, it said.

An army spokesman said Obeid, the Lebanese cleric kidnapped by Israeli commandos July 28, is being held for six months under an "administrative detention" order.

Under "administrative detention," which Israel adopted from 1945 British emergency regulations in Palestine, prisoners can be held up to one year without

being tried or charged.

Israel accuses Obeid of coordinating attacks by the Muslim fundamentalist Hizbollah on Israeli troops in South Lebanon.

"Administrative detainees" are normally entitled to have a lawyer and appeal their detention. But the army spokesman, who is not identified under military regulations, would not say if these rights were extended to Obeid.

Obeid's abduction drew worldwide attention after a group in Lebanon claimed to have killed an American hostage because Israel refused to free the cleric. It remains unclear, however, if the hostage, William R. Higgins, was killed after Obeid's abduction or before.

Israel has demanded the release of three Israelis missing in Lebanon as well as 16 foreign hostages in exchange for Obeid and other prisoners.

On Sunday, the front pages of Israeli papers carried headlines quoting the Sunday Times story that two of the three missing Israelis were in fact dead.

The story written by the paper's London-based Middle East correspondent Marie Colvin said intelligence officers questioning Obeid have concluded that the two infantrymen died of wounds soon after their car was ambushed in South Lebanon in February 1986.

Israel's chief army spokesman,

Ephraim Lapid, did not confirm or deny the report but said the government considers its soldiers to be alive unless it is given documentary proof to the contrary.

In another report on the hostage affair, the Independent of London said Monday that Obeid's abduction had sabotaged sensitive overtures by Israel to Iran and the Hizbollah to free the prisoners.

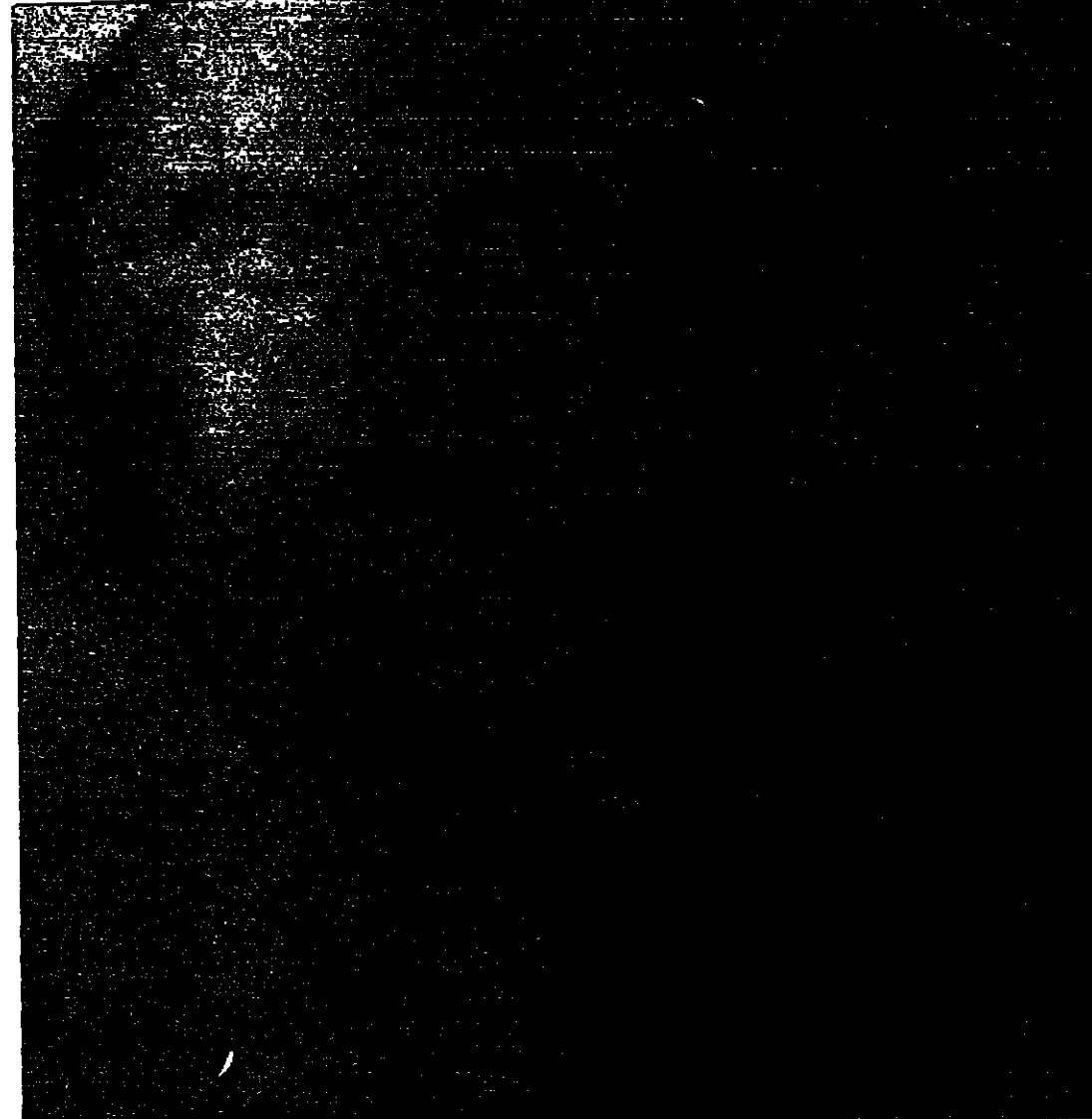
The paper said the inner cabinet appointed a three-man team to negotiate with the Hizbollah that consists of Uri Lubrani, chief coordinator of Israeli policy in Lebanon, Ran Goren, head of the army's manpower branch, and Ori Slonim, a Tel Aviv lawyer and confidante of Rabin.

The team had "opened new channels with Iran and the Hizbollah via two Palestinian Shi'ites who have close links with Tehran," the paper said. Frustrated by the slow progress of negotiations, Israel kidnapped Obeid, it said.

It said Rabin expected the kidnapping to hasten the negotiations, but instead Hizbollah broke off the contacts in anger.

Rabin's spokesman, Haber, refused to comment, saying the issue was sensitive.

One source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the report was "nonsense."



A Shi'ite boy holds a machine gun in front of the poster of pro-Iranian Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid who was abducted by Israelis from his village, Jibceet, in South Lebanon. A Reuters wire photo.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Turkish gunmen kill 8

ANKARA (R) — Gunmen killed eight people in an attack on a para-military gendarmerie post in northeast Turkey, the official Anatolian News Agency said Tuesday. Seven Gendarmes and one civilian in the building near Siran town of north eastern Gumushane province were shot dead with automatic weapons early Tuesday, it said. There was no confirmation whether the gunmen were members of the separatist rebel Marxist Kurdish Workers Party, active in the east and southeast. The gunmen fled with weapons and ammunition kept in the post, the agency said. Turkey's 125,000-strong gendarmerie is a military-run force responsible for policing rural areas under the command of the Interior Ministry.

Algerian police seal off villages

ALGIERS (R) — Algerian security forces have sealed off two villages east of Algiers because of demonstrations against the way the local authorities have allocated housing, witnesses said. Travellers from the area said traffic could not enter the villages of Corso and Tadjelabine on the Mediterranean coast about 30 kilometres from the capital. Similar protests last week ended when police fired teargas and local authorities promised to look into the grievances. The authorities say the protests are part of the campaign for municipal elections expected later this year.

Blast at Turkish navy arsenal kills 3

ANKARA (R) — An explosion at a Turkish navy arsenal has killed three people and seriously injured four others, Anatolian News Agency said. It quoted firemen as saying sparks from welding work on a door set light to 20 boxes of ammunition, killing two civilians and a sailor. The arsenal is part of a major naval base at Golecek Bay on the Marmara Sea east of Istanbul.

Ethiopian delegation in Khartoum

KHARTOUM (R) — An Ethiopian delegation has arrived in Khartoum with a message from President Mengistu Haile Mariam for Sudanese leader Omar Hassan Al Bashir, state Radio Omdurman reported. It did not reveal the contents of the message. Bashir, who overthrew the civilian government on June 30, said last month he and Mengistu had agreed to resolve problems between their two countries. Sudan has accused Addis Ababa of backing rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army. Ethiopia has said Khartoum supports insurgents seeking autonomy for Eritrea.

Security belt around Kabul extended

KABUL (AP) — The government announced Monday that the security belt around Kabul is being extended to prevent long-range rockets from hitting the capital. Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad Nabi Amani said the security zone was being extended from 30 kilometres to between 40 and 60 kilometres (25 and 38 miles), depending on the terrain. Amani said the government had no evidence that surface-to-surface missiles with a 60-kilometre (38-mile) range had been used against Kabul, but it was expecting the U.S.-backed rebels fighting to overthrow President Najib to start using new long-range rockets. Kabul has been the target of almost daily rocket attacks since late June, but Amani said no rockets struck the city Sunday or Monday. The most common rockets being used against Kabul have a 20-kilometre or 30-kilometre range. United Nations sources said that between June 25 and Aug. 1, 281 people were killed and 745 wounded in rocket attacks and a car bombing. Virtually all the victims were civilians.

Israel's Koor puts Tadiran for sale

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's biggest non-government-owned electronics firm, Tadiran Ltd., is up for sale because of heavy losses. Koor Industries Ltd., Israel's largest industrial concern, announced Monday that it would sell Tadiran, whose main products are military hardware. Officials at Koor, the indebted, labour federation-owned conglomerate, said Tadiran had a market value of \$200 million. "Koor's board of directors appointed managing director Benny Gaon to handle the sale of Tadiran," Koor said in a statement, adding that the company might be sold in parts to get a higher price. Tadiran is expected to report an operational loss of \$30 million for the first half of 1989, Gaon said. Israeli press reports said Hong Kong-based Jewish businessman Shaul Eisenberg had offered \$100 million for a 51 per cent stake in Tadiran. Koor's foreign creditors led by New York-based Bankers Trust dropped a liquidation suit in June after the Israeli concern agreed to let local and foreign banks supervise its recovery programme.

Tunisians complain of food price rises

TUNIS (R) — The Tunisian trade union movement said the government had broken the rules of their dialogue by unilaterally raising the prices of subsidised foods. A statement by the Union Generale Tunisienne Du Travail (UGTT), published Tuesday said: "The (UGTT executive) bureau was surprised at the speed with which these increases were announced, at a time when discussions are continuing and without taking into consideration the UGTT's proposals. This is not in line with the principles of dialogue." The government last Friday raised the price of bread by between 14 and 20 per cent and of other foodstuffs by between 5 and 32 per cent to cut the cost of government subsidies. The UGTT, which has 300,000 members, asked the government for an early meeting to discuss the effects of the increases. The government says the price rises will cost the average Tunisian about 2,400 dinars (\$2.60) a month. Minimum wage earners will get a salary increase of three dinars (\$3.15) a month in compensation.

Quake hits Iranian oil town

NICOSIA (R) — An earthquake jolted an oil town in southwest Iran before midnight Monday but there were no reports of casualty or damage, the Iranian news agency IRNA said Tuesday. It reported the tremor, which hit Haftgel 500 kilometres southwest of Tehran, measured 4.5 on the Richter scale. The area includes some of the oldest oil fields in Iran's main oil-producing province of Khuzestan.

Beirut war

(Continued from page 1)

assistant secretary-general, who has had numerous contacts with the warring factions in the Lebanese civil war.

He also met Thierry de Beauce, secretary of state at the French Foreign Ministry, one of five French emissaries touring foreign capitals to seek ways to end the bloodshed in Lebanon.

De Beauce earlier held talks with Algerian President Chadli Benjedid, King Hassan, Chadi and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia were the members of an Arab League committee set up to try to resolve the Lebanese crisis.

After several weeks of contacts with Lebanese factions and Syria, the committee said last month that it had reached a dead end because of irreconcilable differences.

Saudi Arabia called for a ceasefire in the Lebanese fighting amid reports that the Arab mediation may be renewed.

Bush says he will use military force to free hostages

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President George Bush said Tuesday he would use military force "in an instant" if he thought it would free U.S. hostages, but he appeared to rule out a rescue mission at this time.

"If I could find a way to take those hostages, get them and bring them out, and that required using the military force of the United States, make no mistake about it — I would do it in an instant," Bush told a news conference.

"At some point we have to stand up for our interests even if it means military," he added.

But he said he was not threatening military action, in part because he did not want to kill

innocent people.

"I don't want to be responsible for the loss of innocent life. I also would have to weigh, if we considered military action, the lives of the Americans that were being asked to carry out that action. So it's just not clear yet," he said during a 30-minute question-and-answer session in the White House press briefing room.

Over the past two weeks, Bush and other officials have also emphasised that a rescue mission would be almost impossible because the United States does not know precisely where the hostages are or who is holding them.

Bush, who leaves Washington for a three-week vacation at his

seaside home in Kennebunkport, Maine, Wednesday, called on Iran to send a "clear and good signal" of its interest in better relations by securing the release of eight Americans believed held hostage by pro-Iranian groups in Lebanon.

He expressed the belief that there was a "good likelihood," although not a certainty, that the hostages would be free if that was Tehran's desire.

However, Iran's foreign minister poured cold water Tuesday on hopes of securing the release of Western hostages held in Lebanon, but Syrian leaders appeared determined to discuss the issue with him.

Ali Akbar Velayati, considered a pro-Western moderate, told reporters after meeting Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa in Damascus: "Our talks with our Syrian brothers will not have anything to do with the hostage issue since this issue does not concern us."

He declared that Israel must "unconditionally release a pro-Iranian cleric, Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid, kidnapped by its commandos in South Lebanon July 28."

That indicated that the Iranians do not plan to use their influence with the Lebanese kidnap groups to free their Western captives until Obeid is released.

Sixteen Westerners, half of them Americans, are missing in Lebanon. Most of them are believed to be held captive by factions linked to the fundamentalist Hizbollah.

Obeid's seizure dramatically changed the long-running hostage crisis as hopes were brightening that the June 3 death of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and the subsequent election of Hashemi Rafsanjani, leader of Tehran's so-called pragmatists, as president signalled more Iranian flexibility.

Israel has said it will exchange Obeid for three Israeli servicemen held by groups in Lebanon as well as the hostages.

Al Bashir hospital on surgical table

(Continued from page 1)

"I will not get off the bed; if it breaks then let the government pay for a new one," this was how an angry woman answered the nurse.

Smoking is another story. Visitors spend the two-hour visiting time not just chatting with the patient but also exhaling fumes into the already crowded wards.

When they finally leave, it will be at least half an hour after the close of official visiting hours. Even at that, the staff have to literally round them up and shoo them away. And then the staff begin the heavy-duty task of cleaning up the mess of banana peels, appleskins, candy wraps and ashes, not to mention smouldering cigarette butts.

"Can we be held responsible for the situation?" asks a frustrated member of the staff. "But, we have learnt to live with it and continue to perform our duties as best as we can."

'Asset' or liability?

One of the assets of Al Bashir is indeed its lower priced services, which, of course, can also be a liability simply because of the heavy demand for them. However, the doctors and staff always try to find an equilibrium simply through taking the patients on as they come since no definite patterns of volume of work could be predicted, particularly in some of the specialised units.

"A daily average of 25 to 30 operations in the digestive system are carried out in the endoscopy unit in the internal medical department alone, adding up to hundreds and thousands of different kinds of operations performed annually in the same department, with a maximum cost of JD 50 for the most complicated operation," head of the internal medical department Dr. Mustafa Shumag says.

(This rather high operations rate may be attributed to the fact that these people chew too much gum, this reporter observed. A boy was selling chewing gum right in the middle of the medical records building and a nurse was enthusiastically exercising her teeth and jaws; no doubt, the little vendor has his share of regulars in the hospital. "Chewing gum is a phenomenon here," admits a nurse privately. "Like to have one.")

The kidney unit, like all other units in the internal medical department, has a heavy daily burden, particularly since it has to attend to patients referred to it from other hospitals which do not have the right equipment.

"The heavy load that the hospital departments bear and the long years of extensive practice have given our doctors great experience," Shumag says. "I may proudly say that the sub-specialties in our department are one of the best, both nationally and internationally," he adds.

The surgical department, with its burns, orthopedics and surgical units, is the most frequented department in the hospital.

The surgical unit performs a monthly average of 600 operations,

distributed among six operating theatres that are ready to receive emergency cases around the clock.

"We have top specialty surgeons in the department and the services we offer are of very high standard," according to the chief surgery nurse, Dr. Samer Qawasneh. "Look at our low infection rates in light of the crowded facilities we have."

'Crowded'

A quick visit to the wards indicates "crowded" is an understatement. Doctors and nurses have to constantly shove and force their way through the crowd, lending an ear to shouts from patients of every other kind of ailment, some real, some imaginary. ("We do really have a tough time with hypochondriacs," comments a female orderly nurse. "Imagine a patient with burns in his legs; suddenly he feels he has a 'heart disorder'.")

The unit has its structural problems too. The main one, explains Qawasneh, is the distribution of operating theatres; three are located on the first floor and the other three on the second.

"The operating theatres should be located from outside contact. But as things stand now, surgeons are forced to use the stairs used by the hospital visitors. This is not a healthy situation. There is a pressing need for a separate staircase to be used by surgeons because sometimes we need to rush from one theatre to another," he said.

"Over 90 per cent of the cases are not necessarily emergency cases, but the fact remains that most people do not fully comprehend the meaning of the word 'emergency,'" complained a doctor at the department who consented to talking to the Jordan Times while performing his job at the clinic.

'Emergencies'

If lack of separate staircase is a problem for surgeons, but lack of understanding is the headache for Al Bashir's emergency department.

The emergency department is a literal beehive with 600 to 700 daily patients with its medical, surgical, orthopedic and pediatric units, the department is constantly packed with patients who have either come directly or are referred to it from other hospitals, and clinics from the public and private sectors.

"It is nearly impossible to get past the people in the large waiting rooms and corridors of the emergency department, especially at around 8:30 a.m., when it is high time here," said a member of the staff at the facility.

In one of the corridors, a woman was sitting on the floor, breastfeeding her child. Opposite her sat another young woman trying to calm a screaming toddler. The noise was almost deafening and the air was stuffy. How long were they waiting? At least a couple of hours, judging from the intimate content of their conversation.

Examining a small girl, who proved to be suffering from a long-term chronic ailment, he said: "We have almost given up trying to explain there is a difference between emergency cases and illness. All we get in return is sore throats. We might as well concentrate more on proper diagnosis of the right kind of 'emergencies' our own way and on giving the right treatment."

Funny, though, was how he did not have to do anything to prove his point since at this point his door was flung open and at least a dozen people tried to force their way in. It took a short struggle for one of those "specialty assigned" doormen to restore some semblance of calm, order and peace.

Why the bad image?

All of the hospital staff and personnel interviewed by the Jordan Times stressed that the hospital's bad image was a result of continuous pressure and overcrowding. "The hospital has good staff and equipment but when you see the crowds all over the place it gives you a negative impression," said a doctor.

Going through the surgical ward, this reporter saw a woman squatting on the floor with the lunch tray in front of her trying to feed her sick child (probably the patient) while an apparently healthy (perhaps a relative) lay sprawled on the bed.

The hospital's location east of Amman in a heavily-populated area of middle to low income families is not

the only reason behind the people-infested hallways.

In addition to the hospital's free services, which are a major attraction, individuals and official departments get used to the hospital and automatically refer to it without considering its capacity level, thus overloading the hospital even further.

Nearly 80 per cent of our patients are not included in the health insurance scheme in the Kingdom. They are of very low income brackets and cannot afford any other hospital. Al Bashir is also a referral hospital for 19 hospitals affiliated to the National Medical Institution, (previously Ministry of Health hospitals)," Shumag said.

Also commenting on the excessive amount of work that the hospital bears was Issa, who said that "the work is massive and there is an urgent need to ease some of the pressure on the hospital. It is true that we have many expansion plans to increase the capacity of almost every department, but there is also a need for government support to keep the hospital functioning in the high-quality medical services that our patients are used to receiving."

As hospital officials see it, improving already existing services at Al Bashir is far less expensive than other expansion plans, like for instance the construction of a new hospital. As Shumag put it: "Naturally, any hospital can offer the same type of services available at Al Bashir, but definitely not at the same prices."

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

12:00	Damascus (RJ)
12:15	Amman (RJ)
12:30	Baghdad (RJ)
12:45	Beirut (RJ)
13:00	Cairo (RJ)
13:15	London (RJ)
13:30	Paris (RJ)
13:45	Rome (RJ)
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24:00	Yamoubo (RJ)

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 773111-19	
PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30	Koran
15:45	Children's programme
16:00	Alph
16:15	Educational programme
16:30	News summary in Arabic
16:45	Cairo News Message
17:00	Local programme
17:15	Programme review
17:30	News in Arabic
17:45	Arabic series
18:00	Local programme
18:15	Wrestling
18:30	Variety programme
PROGRAMME TWO	
18:45	Loft story
19:00	Des Chiffres Et de Lettres
19:15	News in French
19:30	Documentary
19:45	News in Hebrew
20:00	News in Arabic
20:15	"You can take it with you"
20:30	Documentary
20:45	News in English
21:00	Jack the Ripper
PRAYER TIMES	
06:31	Fajr
07:53	Sunrise
12:40	Dhuhr

CHURCHES	
16:19	Maghreb
19:25	Maghreb
20:49	Maghreb
CHURCHES	
St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swellish, Tel. 810780	
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632783	
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624990	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440	
De la Sella Church Tel. 661757	
Terranova Church Tel. 623666	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541	
Assumption Church Tel. 623383	
628543	
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331	
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 773261	
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751	
Armenian International Church Tel. 636726	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 636730	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821254	
WEATHER	
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.	
Normal summer weather conditions will continue to prevail and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba,	

WINDS	
will be northerly moderate and calm seas.	
TEMPERATURE	
Min./Max. Temp.	
Amman	18 / 32
Aqaba	25 / 39
Deserts	20 / 37
Jordan Valley	24 / 38
USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS	
NIGHT DUTY	
AMBULANCE	
Dr. Ahmad Nasser	639334
Dr. Hussein Haddad	731267
Dr. Ahmad Dagen	676473
Dr. Adnan Dahi	626600
First pharmacy	661912
Second pharmacy	678332
Al Asma pharmacy	637035
Neirosh pharmacy	626672
Al Salam pharmacy	636730
Yaouba pharmacy	644945
Shamsi pharmacy	637460
Dr. Mohammed Tarim	
Al Shamsi pharmacy	983238

RJ Flight Information	
08:3200	
08:3200	
HOSPITALS	
AMMAN:	
Hussain Medical Centre	813613/22
Khalid Maternity, J. Amm	642216
Al-Khalid Maternity	642412
Jabal Amman Maternity	642362
Malhas, J. Amman	636340
Palatine, Shamsi	661714
Shamsi Hospital	691713
University Hospital	843845
Al-Mushar Hospital	667221/9
The Islamic, Abdali	666212/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali	664164/6
Al-Ahli, Abdali	771013
Al-Badri, J. Ashraf	771112/6
Army, Marja	891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital	602240/50
Amal Hospital	674155
ZARQA:	
Zarqa Govt. Hospital	09983323
Zarqa National Hospital	09991071
Bn Sina Hospital	09985732
ARRIVALS	
Princess Basma Hospital	09975555
Greek Catholic Hospital	09972225
Rn Al-Nafesa Hospital	09974100
Princess Haya Hospital	09931411

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. 0853200-5, where it should always be verified.	
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Cabinet approves ACC, WTO delegations

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet, meeting Tuesday, approved Jordan's delegation to the meetings of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) Ministers of Justice scheduled to convene in Baghdad on Aug. 23.

During their two-day meetings, the ministers will discuss cooperation and coordination among the ACC countries as well as developing relations.

The Cabinet also endorsed the composition of Jordan's delegation to the meetings of the World Tourism Organisation (WTO) scheduled to convene in Paris on Aug. 24.

Furthermore, the Cabinet approved the secondment of teachers working at the Ministry of Education to work at the ministries of education in other countries. 268 teachers will go to North Yemen, 64 to Saudi Arabia and 105 to the United Arab Emirates.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

KING SENDS CONDOLENCES: His Majesty King Hussein has delegated Assistant Chief of Protocol for tribal affairs Sheikh Jwaiber to convey his condolences to the Hneidi family on the death of late Sharifa Hamad Hneidi, the wife of Sheikh Ibrahim Rasid Hneidi. (Petra)

MASADEH RECEIVES IRAQI MESSAGE: Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Salem Masadeh Tuesday received a written message from his Iraqi counterpart Samir Mohammad Abdul Wahab dealing with matters of common interest. The message was conveyed by Political Advisor of the Iraqi Interior Minister Brigadier Tareq Abed Latifah who arrived in Amman Monday on a three-day official visit to Jordan. (Petra)

KHLEIFAT RETURNS FROM ROMANIA: Youth Minister Dr. Awad Khleifat returned home Monday at the conclusion of an official visit to Romania lasting several days. During the visit, Dr. Khleifat was briefed about the modern sporting facilities and discussed with officials means to bolster bilateral relations. (Petra)

QATARI LEADER RECEIVES JORDAN'S ENVOY: Qatari Emir Apparent and Defence Minister Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifah Al Thani has received Jordan's Ambassador to Qatar Khaled Al Kayed Al Awamleh at the conclusion of his tour of duty in Qatar. (Petra)

SHARIF ZAID RECEIVES TAPLINE PRESIDENT: Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker Tuesday received the vice president of Tapline Company in the presence of Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib and the company's representative in Amman Jamal Sarayrah. (Petra)

COMMUNITY COLLEGE RESULTS TODAY: A source at the Ministry of Higher Education has noted that a press conference will be held Wednesday to announce the results of the community colleges comprehensive examination for this year. The source asked all concerned students to check with their corresponding colleges for results and not to contact the ministry in this regard. (Petra)

JORDAN TO TAKE PART IN BABEL FESTIVAL: Jordan will participate in the Babel International Festival due to open in Baghdad on Sept. 22. A total of forty troupes from thirty eight countries will take part and sixty researchers in the field of music will hold a scientific conference on the sidelines of the festival. (Petra)

LIBRARIES RECEIVE NEW BOOKS: The Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives has donated a collection of new books to a number of libraries and associations in Jerash, Irbid, Ajloun, Tafleh, Tiberias, Kafirun, Sahab, Zarqa, and Wadi Mousa. The books cover a variety of subjects. (Petra)

Indian community celebrates National Day

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Indian community, living in Jordan Tuesday celebrated the 41st anniversary of India's independence day with a ceremony held at their embassy in Amman.

The ceremony, attended by members of the Indian expatriate community as well as the diplomatic corps in Jordan, included a flag-hoisting ceremony and the national anthem.

The Indian ambassador to Jordan, Mr. Gagendra Singh, read

a message to India issued by the president of India, Mr. Ramaswamy Venkataraman.

It is estimated that there are about 3,000 Indians living in Jordan.



Iraqi team visits university

AMMAN (J.T.) — A visiting delegation from Iraqi universities called at the University of Jordan Tuesday and heard a briefing on its development and programmes. The Dean of the Students Affairs Department spoke in some detail to the 20-member delegation on the university's cultural, artistic and sports activities, and later accompanied the guests on a tour of the campus.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

★ A plastic art exhibition by Jordanian Artist Maha Abu 'Ayyash at the Plastic Artists Association, Shamsiyya.

FESTIVAL

★ A cultural festival including exhibitions of books, paintings and national documents, as well as documentary films, lectures and poetry recitals at Eder Sports Club, Karak.

LECTURE

★ A lecture by Dr. Fouad Zakaria entitled "Arab and European Renaissance" at the Scientific Cultural Centre of Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation — 6:30 p.m.

Qasem receives new Iraqi envoy

AMMAN (J.T.) — Newly appointed Iraqi Ambassador to Jordan Nouri Ismail Tuesday presented a copy of his credentials to Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem. The new ambassador-designate succeeds Ghaffi Jassim Hussein who had served as ambassador here since 1985.

Ministry to start preparing final version of voters list Wednesday

AMMAN (J.T.) — Preparation of the final version of the voters list for the coming parliamentary elections in November is due to start Wednesday, now that the process of registering voters has ended in accordance with regulations set by the Ministry of Interior.

Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker Monday visited the Central Registration Office super-

vised by Amman Governor Mohammad Ali Al Amin on the eve of the conclusion of the work of the registration committees, and was briefed on the result of the work.

According to Amin, following the preparation of the voter lists in their final version, a 20-day period will be given for candidates to announce their nomination, a

step that precedes the elections expected in the second half of November.

Amin noted that the voting process will be held in a single day, and the counting of votes will be done on the following day.

In an earlier statement, the governor announced that an estimated 1.2 million voters would be registered to cast ballots.

Jordan to attend talks on regional power interconnection Sept. 1

ISTANBUL (Petra, J.T.) — Ministers of energy and electricity in Jordan, Iraq, Syria, Egypt and Turkey will meet here on Sept. 1 to discuss measures for embarking on the first stage of a regional power interconnection project which will be financed by the Islamic Development Bank and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development.

According to Arab and Turkish sources the project is expected to cost \$500 million, but will save a total of \$300 million annually for

the five countries once it is operational.

They said that the project aims to enable the five states to help one another in power exchanges and to pave the way for possible linkage with the European grid at a later stage.

The Egyptian energy minister last month announced that the five countries were examining tender documents for a feasibility study which would be awarded to an international consultancy firm.

Once the project has been implemented, the minister said, less allocations would be needed by the five countries on power projects in future.

The five countries last January agreed to set up for the first time the power grid interconnection in the region, and also decided that Amman should host an office for the work of a technical committee.

The project is expected to be carried out between 1991 and 1993.

Khayyat reports on Israeli acts of sacrilege at ACC talks in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Jordan's delegation to a ministerial meeting here to discuss cooperation among the four member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) in religious affairs, has submitted a working paper detailing measures that would help confront Israel's acts of sacrilege at the Islamic shrines in Palestine.

Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Dr. Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat, who leads the Jordanian delegation to the meeting which opened Tuesday, said that the Jordanian paper calls for ex-

tending help to the intifada and boosting the spirit of Islam in the occupied territories for the sake of safeguarding the Aqsa Mosque.

He said his colleagues from Iraq, Egypt and North Yemen have responded positively to the Jordanian call.

The paper, he said, calls for further cooperation among ministries of Awqaf and Islamic affairs in the four states and for unifying Islamic laws and matters related to preaching, Koran teaching

centres, Islamic cultural centres and other Islamic questions.

Khayyat said that the Jordanian paper calls for joint Islamic exhibitions within the context of the ACC with the aim of attaining its highest objectives.

Conference sources said that the ministers are expected to discuss means of saving the Islamic nation from subversive Zionist ideologies, and the question of unifying the ACC member countries' stands at international or regional conferences.

Industrial sector raises JD 181,000 to benefit Palestinian uprising

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian industrial sector has raised JD 181,000 in the first seven months of 1989 for the benefit of the Palestinian people involved in the uprising against Israeli occupation, according to Mamdouh Abbadi, secretary general of the National People's Committee for Supporting the Intifada.

Abbadi said that the contributions have been channelled to the

national committee which is organising the collection of contributions.

Earlier this month Abbadi announced that the committee has received a total of JD 2.06 million so far in its efforts to raise funds to support the oppressed Palestinians.

Abbadi said that JD 1,000 were paid to the family of each martyr who had fallen in the course of

the intifada and JD 200 to each of the wounded people since Dec. 1987.

Abbadi also said that the committee has provided training to doctors from the Palestinian lands to offer medical help to the wounded and those suffering from gunshots of poisonous gases used by the Israeli authorities against the protesters.



U.S. envoys visit University of Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Cultural matters and cooperation between the American Cultural Centre in Amman and the University of Jordan were discussed at a meeting at the University of Jordan Tuesday. The discussion took place during a

meeting held by University President Mahmoud Al Samra, U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Roscoe Suddarth and the newly appointed cultural attache Jonathan P. Owen.

16,500 apply for Jordanian universities

AMMAN (J.T.) — A total of 16,500 students have now submitted applications to enrol at any one of the four Jordanian universities through the post offices around the country, according to an announcement by the universities coordination office.

The office which processes all applications channelled to the universities said that students with 80 per cent average grades and above stand a very good chance of being admitted.

Tuesday was the last day for the acceptance of applications by post offices which in turn forwarded the presented documents and application forms to the coordination office.

The total number of students who passed this year's Tawjihi examination was put at 26,180, of whom only 8,875 will be allowed to enrol at the universities in Jordan, according to an earlier statement by Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad.

Universities will open their

doors for students in the coming academic year on Sept. 20, more than three weeks after the end of the summer courses.

Jordanian students residing

abroad and non-Jordanian students wishing to enrol at any of the Jordanian universities will have to pay for their tuition in U.S. dollars starting from the 1989-1990 academic year, according to an announcement by the Council of Higher Education.

A council statement gave details about the type of specialisation and credit hours to be paid by students according to the following table:

UNDERGRADUATES

Specialization	Each credit hour for non-residents (in dollars)	Each credit hour for non-Jordanians (in dollars)
Medicine, dentistry, and veterinary medicine	100	150
Engineering and pharmacy	75	112.5
Humanities	40	60
Sciences and agriculture	50	75
Nursing	30	45

POST GRADUATES

	Each credit hour for non-residents (in dollars)	Each credit hour for non-Jordanians (in dollars)
Diploma	60	90
MA humanities	75	112.5
Doctorate	150	225
Other fees	125	187.5



Minister of Public Works and Housing Shafiq Zawaideh returns from Cairo Tuesday accompanied by North Yemeni Minister of Municipalities and Housing Mahsen Al Hamadani (Petra photo)

ACC housing ministers pave way for greater cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of public works and housing in the four member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) have concluded a protocol in Cairo, paving the way for greater cooperation and coordination among them in housing and public works, Minister of Housing and Public Works Shafiq Zawaideh announced here Tuesday.

The minister was speaking on his return from the Cairo meeting which was held upon the invitation of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

The three-day meeting was also

dedicated to studying scopes of cooperation in housing and population.

The protocol entails provisions for unifying technical terms used in public works, housing and work-contracts, exchange of expertise in development and construction as well as providing building materials. Zawaideh noted.

Arriving in Amman on board the same plane was North Yemen's minister of municipalities and housing, Mr. Mahsen Al Hamadani.

The minister, who will spend

two days in Amman, has scheduled meetings with Zawaideh and other officials to discuss bilateral cooperation in housing affairs in the light of the Cairo resolutions.

Hamadani said that the Cairo meeting was designed to take the four ACC members one more step towards total integration.

At their meeting in Cairo the four ministers decided to set up a committee to study building materials found in the four ACC states to use them in building operations taking place in the four countries.

'Israelis violated sanctity of 190 mosques since outbreak of intifada'

AMMAN (Petra) — The Israeli authorities have violated the sanctity of 190 mosques in the occupied Arab territories since the outbreak of the Palestinian uprising in December 1987, according to Rafiq Al Khatib, director of the Al Haram Al Sharif at the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs here.

Khatib said that the Israelis have allowed Jewish settlers to

commit acts of sacrilege in mosques throughout the West Bank, throwing molotov cocktails and smoke bombs on the worshippers in the Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Holy Rock which resulted in the burning of part of the carpeting.

He said that such actions and others are designed to intimidate the Muslim worshippers and stifle

the spirit of their resistance.

Israel has also seized mosques in areas occupied since 1948, turning them into museums or recreational centres, Khatib added.

He urged international organisations to help stop Israel's atrocities and its inhuman practices against the Muslim population.

Local industries can supply needed medicine to drugstores — Malhas

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Health Minister Zuhair Malhas said Tuesday that drugstores and Ministry of Health clinics should make available all types of needed medicine at reasonable prices.

Jordanian pharmaceutical industries can supply such a variety

of medicines that previously had to be imported, the minister noted at a meeting for directors of health departments in different provinces.

Malhas talked about future plans for health education programmes and obstacles in the path of health staff.

"The staff should spread awareness in health and medical matters through personal and direct contact with people in urban and rural areas," the minister said.

The head of the ministry's Primary Health Care Department was present at the meeting.

Road linking Wadi Al Yitem to southern shore of Aqaba completed

AQABA (Petra, J.T.) — The Ministry of Public Works and Housing announced Tuesday the completion of a 12-kilometre road linking Wadi Al Yitem, near Aqaba, with the southern shores of the port city.

The JD 6 million project constitutes the second and final phase of a major scheme to help trucks and other heavy vehicles to avoid going through the port city.

The project entailed arrangements for protecting fertiliser and potash plants and the Aqaba Thermal Power Station from rain water inundation, the ministry

said in a statement.

The second phase of the project entailed building three bridges at crossroads, the statement added.

The work was conducted by a local construction firm operating under the supervision of the Ministry of Public Works.

The 32-kilometre road, work on which started in 1987, has been financed through loans from the Kuwait Fund for Economic and Social Development and the Saudi Development Fund, according to the statement.

According to Aqaba Region Authority (ARA) President Basam Qaqish, the JD 14.5 million project is bound to reduce the amount of pollution resulting from the presence of huge numbers of trucks and cars in and around the port city.

He said that now the whole stretch has been completed, work will go ahead with the second step, which is the removal of garages and workshops from their present location, and subsequently the banning of all trucks and large vehicles from entering the city.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975

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What about interest rates?

THE DAY is fast approaching when there will be one exchange rate for the Jordanian dinar. With the dinar constantly making gains against the U.S. dollar and other hard currencies, the prophecy by Jordanian banking and financial authorities that the country would soon enjoy one operational exchange rate will materialise sooner than later. The existing two tier exchange system, one for essentials and the other for less pressing needs, will soon give way to the aspired for one rate of exchange. And the fact that the dinar fetches better rates in the open market than at banks is a good omen that all is going well in favour of the Jordanian economy and currency.

Now is therefore the time to put into effect other complementary fiscal measures to fortify the dinar. With inflation conservatively gauged at over 30 per cent, it would be prudent to increase interest rates on dinar accounts to reflect this existing rate of inflation. There is no banking system in the world that tolerates levels of interest rates that are lower than the prevailing rate of inflation. In Jordan this gap between inflation rate and interest rates is woefully out of step with economic and monetary realities. It would be a catastrophe to reverse the tide in favour of the Jordanian dinar by keeping interest rates for Jordanian currency accounts at the current artificially low rates.

Were our Central Bank to accept to act in this proposed direction, it will be killing two birds with one stone: One that bolsters even further the strength of the dinar, and the other that lowers the inflation rates by making credit tighter. Of course, there is always the risk that tightening credit in the country could stiffen the ongoing recession. That is why the proposed interest rates should be prescribed with so many considerations in mind. Still it would be repugnant to all sensible and responsible monetary policies to maintain interest at a rate lower than the existing inflationary rate.



Waleed — Al Dustour

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

IMPROVEMENT in the value of the Jordan dinar against the U.S. dollar is discussed by Al Ra'i Arabic daily Tuesday. The paper paid tribute to the sound policies adopted by the Central Bank of Jordan, the government's measures to control spending and the liberal aid from Arab countries which helped to support the national currency enabling it to stand firm in the face of external conspiracies. The pressure exercised by Israel on the Jordanian currency was aimed at weakening Jordan's stand and at aborting the ongoing Palestinian intifada in the occupied Arab territories, said the paper. It noted that world Zionism and the Israeli government had hoped that such pressure would end the Palestinian resistance which had so far rendered the Israeli war machine totally impotent. The pressure on Jordan was coupled by severe measures directed by Israel against the Arab population of occupied Palestine, but all this has now ended in total failure, the paper added. The paper expressed hope that the government and the Central Bank of Jordan will continue their constructive and positive measures, not only to fend off this hostile campaign, but also to ensure continued development and progress.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily tackles the question of medicine and arrangements by the Health Ministry and the Jordan Pharmacists Association (JPA) to ensure sufficient stocks in the local market. Salah Abdul Samad says that ensuring sufficient supplies is a question of paramount importance to the Jordanian people; and for this reason a memorandum submitted to the government by the JPA attracted public attention. The writer calls on the Health Ministry to declare its views and clear policy with regard to the question of medicine and dealings with the drugstores which import the medicine that cannot be manufactured in the country. He says that there is no harm in consulting the former health minister in this matter in view of his experience in these questions and since he was the architect of a former arrangement with the drugstores. The writer notes that exchange of views over this matter are bound to help all concerned parties to arrive at an acceptable solution.

Al Dustour daily Tuesday commented on the situation in Lebanon in view of the latest escalation of fighting around Beirut. The paper said that Jordan's call Monday on the Arab Nation to put an end to the conflict and save the innocent lives, reflects its keenness on safeguarding the Lebanese nation and its sovereignty, as well as its concern to protect the lives of the innocent civilian population. The paper noted that Jordan cannot tolerate the atrocities committed against the people of Lebanon and is acting in a national spirit and in true commitment to pan-Arab causes. What is most saddening about the situation is that the killing of Lebanese people is taking place at a time when the Arab League mediation committee is impotent and nothing is being done to revive its peace mission in Lebanon. The paper reminded the Arab Nation that the only beneficiary of the tragedy is Israel and its allies who want to see further disarray in the Arab World and to have a free hand in fanning the intifada of the Palestinian people.

ECOLIGHT

The natural resources of Jordan: how much?

IT IS most gratifying when one is pleasantly surprised with a piece of new information. Last week I received an envelope from the minister of energy and mineral resources, enclosed in which a hard-cover copy of a book, in English. The book is entitled "Natural Resources in Jordan: Inventory, Evaluation and Development Programme." The book is the result of a two-year diligent effort exerted jointly by the Natural Resources Authority and Professor F. Bender, the former president of the West German Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources.

The book is in 223 medium-size pages and includes many graphic and photographic illustrations. The total data on natural resources was coded and stored in accordance with GRASP system which "was designed specifically as a retrieval system to provide access to earth science databases on almost any time-sharing computer." This advanced method facilitates the dissemination of information to interested users. Such a step is highly commendable.

Some of the salient data in the book are worth mentioning. The proven resources of bituminous limestone (Oil Shale) in Jordan

are estimated at 36,797,300,000 tonnes of which 3,907,000,000 tonnes of light oil are extractable. In other words, the extractable oil quantity is roughly 28,000,000 barrels of crude oil, an amount sufficient to meet the current oil consumption in Jordan for more than one thousand years. The study declines to adventure an assessment of gas reserves. If the reader is interested in knowing more about crude oil deposits he may consult the study.

The book demonstrates without any doubt that Jordan has more natural resources than is commonly known. There is a number of industrial minerals which are available in feasible quantities but remain thus far unutilised. Others are available in undetermined quantities but merit further exploration and analysis.

It is also useful to note that certain minerals are not worth pursuing because of their questionable quality and quantity.

It would have been more useful had the book considered the possible local applications of promising minerals. It concentrates mainly on the feasibility of exportability but giving little heed to downstream industries directed to domestic demand.

In addition, certain parts of the book do not include a structured summary of the availability and utility of certain minerals and deposits. This oversight does not in any way diminish its value to specialised readers. Yet laymen like myself find such lack of summary frustrating especially when they have to wade through the technical terms before they are able to put a concrete picture together.

The value of the book stems basically from two major considerations. First, it fills a gap that has haunted researchers and investors for a long time. In no way should the book be considered final; it has to be continually updated and revised once exploration reveals new facts or refutes old ones. Second, the book provides very useful information for Jordanian and foreign investors. They have a wealth of information which can constitute the backbone of thorough feasibility investigations.

The Natural Resources Authority is to be congratulated on this effort. The book should be emulated by others, especially in those departments where "stock" facts about their areas of concern are still subject to guessimates in the new world of precision.

The Iranian Mujahedin: Marxists, Muslims or both?

By Godfrey Jansen

THE MUJAHEDIN e-Khalq,

the People's Mujahedin of Iran, was among the opposition groups that brought down the Pahlavi monarchy, enduring great suffering and sacrifices in the process. Yet by guile and superior organisation the mullahs were able to take over the revolution from the Mujahedin, which is now the most effective group opposing their regime. It is therefore important to know what this group stands for: in particular, whether they are "Muslim Marxists". This was an epithet first applied to them by the Shah to give the impression that the Mujahedin were duplicitous atheists in Muslim disguise. The Mujahedin bridle at any reference made to these words, and mention their dubious origin.

Yet this denial is disingenuous and depends on the definition of

"Marxist": perhaps "Marxist Muslims" would be a more accurate appellation. But that there is good reason for applying, however loosely, the Marxist label to them is proven by the evidence laid out in *Radical Islam: the Iranian Mujahedin* by Ervand Abrahamian. This is a work of meticulous scholarship by an Iranian-Armenian, doubtless now in exile. It is important and valuable not only because it is the first and only book to deal with the ideology of the Mujahedin in detail but also because it is based on first hand research on little known Mujahedin documentation.

From its earliest beginnings around 1963 the Mujahedin had a clear Marxist orientation. The texts that the founding group studied included the works of "standard" revolutionary authors: besides Marx and Lenin these were Che Guevara, Frantz

Fanon, Regis Debray and the Algerian Amar Ouzeghan. Equally, from the start the group made clear that while it studied and accepted Marxist economics it avoided Marxist philosophy "in order to protect its religious susceptibilities". A handbook published on the eve of the Islamic revolution declared: "We say 'no' to Marxist philosophy, especially to atheism. We say 'yes' to Marxist social thought, particularly its analysis of feudalism, capitalism and imperialism."

The law of historical determinism

For the Mujahedin God not only created the world but also, within it, what they call the law of "historical determinism", the operation of which will finally bring about an egalitarian society, according to the promise in the Koran that "the masses will inherit the earth". This law, together with the concept of class struggle, is seen as an integral part of Islam. As one of the Mujahedin's founders said, "to separate class struggle from Islam is to betray Islam". Thus, while rejecting Marxist philosophy while undogmatically accepting Marxist science, the Mujahedin claimed that "scientific Marxism" was compatible with Islam.

Using language of that sort it is little wonder that they were thought to be Marxists. Yet there were good reasons, of principle and of expediency, why the Mujahedin not only spurned the Marxist label but even denied that they were socialists. They are genuine believers in man's spiritual dimension and, what is more, they are not only Muslims but Shi'ites, basing themselves on the Shi'ite tradition of struggle against the status quo and the religious and political establish-

ments. Also socialism and other "isms" were Western imports that might frighten off the ordinary traditional Iranian.

That the Mujahedin were not materialist Marxists should have been clear from the schism that split the movement in 1975 on this very issue. Those who preferred Marx to the Koran eventually ended up in what was called the Peykar organisation. The Mujahedin also tried and failed to have anything more than a tactical alliance with the Fedayeen group which, from the start, was militantly leftist and anti-Islam.

Since 1981 the Mujahedin has undergone many vicissitudes. In that year it attempted an open, armed challenge to the Khomeini regime which was defeated; the top leadership went into exile and the membership went underground and is still persecuted. In exile the Mujahedin changed its character and became, according

to Mr. Abrahamian, a "religious-political sect", of which he is bitterly critical though with some justification. He does not mention the latest development when the movement set up a "National Liberation Army", based in Iran, which carried out increasingly ambitious and successful attacks into Iran up to the time of the ceasefire last summer.

Perhaps because of this radical change of emphasis the Mujahedin, while talking freely about their political and economic plans for a liberated Iran, seem extremely unwilling to discuss the movement's basic ideology. This is probably because of the calculation that even to admit that they are Marxists in their thinking would frighten off their friends in the West. This is a pity, because the Mujahedin's conflation of "revolutionary" social criticism with Islam is of interest far beyond the boundaries of Islam itself.

ICRC president urges Israel to respect Geneva Convention

ICRC President Cornelio Sommaruga went to Israel in June, on the first official visit by a president of the ICRC since the war in 1967, and as the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories entered its 19th month.

MR. SOMMARUGA met with high-ranking Israeli officials, including Israel's president, Chaim Herzog, the prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir, the deputy prime minister, Shimon Peres, the ministers of defence and justice, Yitzhak Rabin and Dan Meridor, and the director general of the ministry of foreign affairs, Reuven Merhav. He also held talks with commanding officers of the Israeli army.

In an interview with the ICRC Bulletin, President Sommaruga began by explaining the aims of his visit:

My visit was in response to an official invitation from the Israeli government, and aimed to discuss and express concern over the humanitarian problems in the Israeli occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

What were the results of your discussions concerning violations of international humanitarian law?

There were a number of points of disagreement related to respect for the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention. We had quite different positions on

collective punishments. I underlined the fact that the destruction of houses and deportations could not be accepted by the ICRC, as they are contrary to the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention. I also stressed the heavy humanitarian consequences of the use of firearms in the occupied territories, which has resulted in a high number of dead and wounded.

All these points led me to insist on the necessity of applying fully the Fourth Geneva Convention. However, the Israeli government was again not prepared to do so in legal terms. I did, nevertheless, receive assurances, from all the ministers I met that they would apply de facto all the provisions of the Convention in the occupied territories.

Just a few days after you ended your visit to Israel, the Israeli authorities expelled another eight residents of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, bringing the total to 56 since the intifada began in December 1987. What is your reaction to these expulsions?

I feel saddened and disappointed, because even if I did

not obtain any promises from the Israeli government that it would not carry out any further expulsions, I did get a clear statement according to which it would apply de facto the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention. In this latest incident, they certainly did not do so.

What other humanitarian problems were discussed during your visit?

There were three main points. First of all, we reviewed the situation of detainees, particularly in view of the fact that the ICRC has visited a very large number of detainees — over 40,000 — since the end of 1987. I underlined the fact that detainees from the occupied territories should not be transferred to Israel, but should be detained inside the territories. I also spoke about the situation of detainees under interrogation, as well as a number of new places of detention to which the ICRC does not yet have access. In addition, I insisted on the essential rights of detainees, particularly that of receiving family visits.

These talks resulted in a number of positive replies from the Israeli government, and I hope to see progress on these issues in the very near future.

Secondly, I pointed out the absolute necessity of guaranteeing a better functioning of medical services in the occupied

territories, particularly in relation to the free passage of ambulances. There have been a number of incidents where this was not the case. Both the army and the minister of defence replied positively on this subject.

In addition, I discussed the possibility of the ICRC getting more involved in medical activities in the occupied territories, by providing assistance and transport for the wounded, for example, and the Israeli authorities showed interest in these propositions.

Finally, we reviewed the humanitarian problems related to the

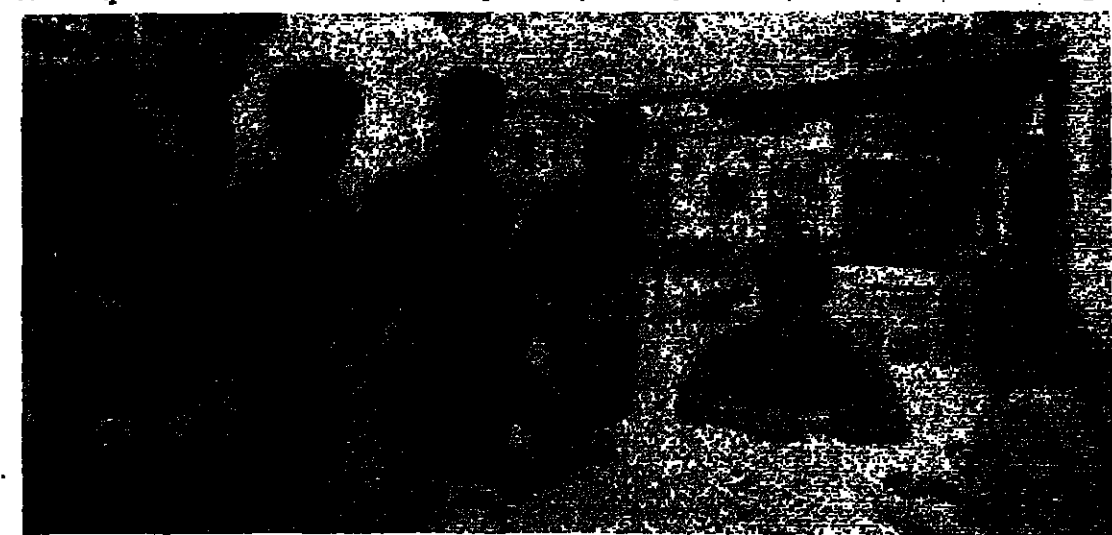
seven Israeli soldiers reported missing in Lebanon. I met their families and explained what the ICRC has done so far to find out if they are still alive and, if so, who is detaining them and how they are being treated.

Do you consider that your visit to Israel has been a success?

It was positive in the sense that I was able to talk over a number of important humanitarian issues with members of the Israeli government, and hand over written remarks about the application of the Fourth Geneva Convention in the occupied territories.

The mission would not, of course, have been credible without a firsthand experience of what is happening in the occupied territories. I met representatives of Palestinian humanitarian groups, including the local Red Crescent organisations, and I went personally to the West Bank, Nablus and Jenin in particular, where I saw a number of situations where one has a clear impression of tension and of problems.

I would like, finally, to express my sympathy to the victims on all sides of the Arab-Israeli conflict which has lasted for too long.



An ICRC delegate registers new detainees at the prison of Afula in Israel. (Photo ICRC/T. Gammann)

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Marilyn Monroe talks from the dead

Beautiful, insecure and still a mystery

By Frank Duriani

CHILLINGLY dramatic scenes of screen goddess Marilyn Monroe fighting and screaming for her life were described during an amazing scene held at the actress's Hollywood grave.

A medium, saying she was receiving a series of "teal pictures" from Marilyn, described how two men held her down on her bed and gave her a lethal injection.

After analysing the tape of the graveside scene held by top medium Debra Senate, Milo announced: "This is all pretty accurate information."

And, as Marilyn Monroe's "last picture show" unfolded, 51-year-old Milo put names to the faces and motives to their actions.

But the private eye, who has written three books on Marilyn's "murder", stressed that the plot of the psychic story did not necessarily agree with his own incredible version of Marilyn's last hours.

A big budget movie is being made of this.

Even Milo had heard of some of the dramatic information that came pouring out from beyond the grave.

Debra, aged 28, who has held similar seances at Radford Valentino's home and aboard the Queen Mary, stood beside the flower-decked tomb as the sun was getting over Westwood Memorial Park. Marilyn's pit marble grave was surrounded with lit candles.

Then the last, sad story of Marilyn, found naked in bed at her home after officially taking an overdose of barbiturate tablets, began to run as a series of vivid scenes.

Debra, who says she has never taken an interest in Marilyn's story and always believed she committed suicide, began: "Although Marilyn had a maid — an older woman — she opened the door herself to these two men."

"She knew them both. One was a doctor, and she wasn't surprised to see him. But she hadn't expected the younger man, asked him why he was there."

Milo explained that the doctor could have been Marilyn's psychiatrist, Ralph Greenson, and the other man Bobby Kennedy, then the Attorney General.

Milo said: "It has been said that the President, John F. Kennedy, had first been romantically involved with Marilyn. He then passed her on to his brother."

Debra went on: "I'm not getting suicide. Marilyn wasn't de-

pressed. Things were starting to look up for her. I get murder. I see them in Marilyn's bedroom now."

Murdered

"She is being murdered at the hands of these two men. She is not naked. She is wearing something like a long, power-blue T-shirt and is nude underneath it. The doctor is holding her by the shoulders and the other man by the legs ... the thighs."

"I can see her stretched out and fighting. Marilyn is yelling and is surprised because there is nobody in the house to come and help her."

"She feels totally lost. She knows she isn't going to live through what is going on. Marilyn is very shocked and feels betrayed because she had great trust in these men."

"She is struggling, shouting and thrashing her head from side to side. Now the doctor's hand is cupping her mouth. I can see the bedroom. She has kicked off her slippers, which are sprawled by the side of the bed. They are fluffy and pink and white."

Debra paused, peering into the violent past, then went on: "The shades are drawn across the window, and Marilyn's bed abuts it. It has a headboard. There is a night-stand to the left of the bed with a telephone on it."

"Now, suddenly, Marilyn has stopped struggling. Instantly. It is as though she has given a sigh and gone to sleep. That's it. 'Now I'm getting a picture of a bruise on her upper, inner thigh. It is about the size of a dime. For some reason, Marilyn thinks this is significant. It could be the mark of an injection.'"

"I really don't think he meant to kill her. He just meant to shut her up. He killed her by accident. I get fear and anger from him. It's like he didn't know what was happening. The younger man leaves and the doctor stays. He doesn't seem surprised at the turn of events. He knew what was in that injection but he doesn't seem upset."

"The doctor is stripping her nude ... it's bizarre. Now another guy has arrived, a middle-aged man, and he is yelling at the doctor. This man doesn't even look at Marilyn. It is as if he knows what has been done."

"The last person to read it was the deputy coroner's aide, Lionel Gralson, who signed her death certificate under 'duress' and verified the contents as described by Slatzer."

"If Marilyn had told all, as she threatened to do at her news conference scheduled for the Monday following her demise, all hell would have broken loose. The top secret information to which she was apparently privy could have caused an international scandal more devastating than Watergate. The history of the world may have been changed."

"The diary made references to Jack and Bobby Kennedy's intimate relationship with Marilyn, her knowledge of the Bay of Pigs in detail (where an abortive attempt was made to invade Cuba), and of the CIA plan to use gangsters to assassinate the

Milo has never believed that Marilyn died after taking 47 Nembutal tablets on August 5, 1962. He said: "The autopsy showed a high level of drugs in the blood and no evidence of pills in the stomach. I believe in the theory that Marilyn was killed by injection."

"A bruise did exist, but it was on her hip. And Marilyn did frequently wear a power blue Terrycloth bathrobe. The medium describes the bedroom rather well. The characters she says were holding Marilyn down sound to me as though they were probably like her psychiatrist, Dr. Ralph Greenson and Bobby Kennedy."

"I did hear an actual tape recording of this type of scene. Marilyn's house had been bugged by Teamsters' union chief Jimmy Hoffa, who was trying to gather embarrassing information on Bobby Kennedy. Bobby considered that Hoffa was a gangster, and wanted to put him out of business."

"At one point you do hear Marilyn yelling and screaming as if people are holding her down. The bug was installed by an expert wire-tapper called Bernard Spindel, who was later arrested over another matter. His tapes were confiscated. But I know several copies had been made."

"Spindel filed a law suit in New York, asking for his tape back and saying that it proved Marilyn Monroe was murdered. But, according to the District Attorney's office, that tape never existed. But at least one other person has a copy of it."

Debra took up her story again, as the shadows lengthened in the cemetery. Nearby, movie-goers lined up eagerly in the bustling area's dozens of cinemas. She said: "Now the young guy is totally surprised at what has happened and is panicky. He is surprised that Marilyn has died."

"The doctor is stripping her nude ... it's bizarre. Now another guy has arrived, a middle-aged man, and he is yelling at the doctor. This man doesn't even look at Marilyn. It is as if he knows what has been done."

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Search

"His sole purpose is to search the house, and he seems to know that he has plenty of time to do this."

"I can see this man going through Marilyn's dresser bureau. As he goes through the drawers, the doctor is shouting at him not to disturb anything. He leaves about 15 minutes before the police arrive."

"Why did Marilyn die? She knew something somebody wanted to keep quiet. Somebody wanted to shut her up."

Milo commented: "We know from several eye-witnesses who were playing poker in the house next-door to Marilyn's on the night of her death that Bobby Kennedy arrived at 5 pm. He was accompanied by a man described as carrying a medical bag."

"Now, I can look at some probabilities here. I'm not saying this myself — just trying to analyse the medium's information. It's possible that Bobby may have been at the house to set things up, and a hit man came through and did the job."

Marilyn knew many Government secrets, including the CIA — Mafia connection to kill Cuban dictator Fidel Castro. Milo also has a shrewd idea of why the mystery third man would be searching the movie star's house.

Back in 1962, Milo offered a reward of \$150,000 for the return of Marilyn's missing red diary. In his book, Marilyn Monroe: Murder Cover-Up, Milo said: "I first heard of the diary when my client Bob Slatzer, who was briefly married to Marilyn, told me that she had shown it to him not long before her death."

"The last person to read it was the deputy coroner's aide, Lionel Gralson, who signed her death certificate under 'duress' and verified the contents as described by Slatzer."

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"The diary made references to Jack and Bobby Kennedy's intimate relationship with Marilyn, her knowledge of the Bay of Pigs in detail (where an abortive attempt was made to invade Cuba), and of the CIA plan to use gangsters to assassinate the

President of Cuba, Fidel Castro.

"Marilyn's diary is an important link in establishing why she was murdered. More important are the clandestine tape recordings made in the Monroe home the night she died."

Milo says the diary he sought never came to light.

Back to Debra and her "last picture show." She said: "I am getting flashes of a beach and a pier. The pier is north of Santa Monica and has a motel opposite, with bungalows."

The medium was exactly describing the pier in the stars' seaside paradise of Malibu. She went on: "This is at least a month before her murder. Marilyn has a big, white dog with her. She is having a heated argument with a man she has been with for two days."

"He is slapping her across the face and telling her to shut up. The man is wearing dark glasses and his hair is short and brushed forward. He seems really familiar to me ... a public figure. He is the older brother of the young man in the house."

Mad

"The argument is over a child she hasn't borne yet. She is pregnant. There is a big argument because she wants to keep the baby and this guy refuses to let her."

"He is married and she is mad and upset. They have had a romantic relationship. Marilyn wanted more out of this but he wanted to leave."

The pictures flashing across Debra's mind flickered and faded.

Milo said he had no knowledge of such a beach scene. But he added: "We know that Marilyn had an abortion approximately two months before her death. Marilyn really wanted the baby. She'd had so many abortions and miscarriages."

"She was officially checked into the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital, Los Angeles, for a different medical reason. After leaving hospital, she told a reporter that she didn't know if it was Jack's kid or Bobby's."

"So, apparently, she was sleeping with both of them at about the same time. The medium said Bobby was appalled at Marilyn's death. And I don't actually believe that Bobby Kennedy wanted to see her dead."

"The man on the pier could have been either President Kennedy or the Kennedy's brother-in-law, actor Peter Lawford. But



Marilyn Monroe: "In Hollywood, they'll pay you a thousand dollars for a kiss and fifty cents for your soul."

I can't really see Lawford hitting Marilyn.

"Yes, she had a white dog. It was called Mafia, later shortened to Maf. It was given to her by Frank Sinatra. I am only placing these people according to the tape. I am not placing them there myself."

"I have found nothing in what this lady said that would indicate that it all could not have happened. Since she was not paid, I see no motivation to lie."

"If I had to judge the tape on its own merits, I would say that it is pretty accurate information."

Now not only Marilyn Monroe but all the main characters in her psychic drama are dead... the Kennedy brothers, Dr. Greenson, even Spindel the phone-tapper. So how does Marilyn Monroe feel about the whole affair today?

Debra said simply: "She is angry at herself. For trusting people she shouldn't have. She is very upset that people she thought really loved her, betrayed her. She feels really bad because she made a bad judgement."

It was a sad epitaph, spoken as darkness fell across the town that made and then helped to break one of the greatest screen idols of our time — Arab Times.



Private investigator Milo Sperlio in his Hollywood office.

Working together for survival

By Beth Enslow

THE Desert Survival Problem is one of a number of group decision-making exercises that companies use to examine and increase the effectiveness of their management teams. The concept is simple: Hand a group a problem, have them solve it individually, and then as a team. The team solution will be better than almost all of the individual solutions, demonstrating the value of working as a group. And the exercise itself will increase team members' awareness of the best ways to work together to solve problems.

The problem in the box was developed by Human Synergistics Inc. in the early 1970s to encourage effective group decision-making. It is based on more than 2,000 actual situations in which people lived or died depending upon the survival decisions they made. To complete the exercise, each team member first solves the problem individually and then all members work together to reach a group solution. Scores are tabulated as follows: For each of the 15 items, the correct ranking (which experts in desert survival determined from examining the real-life cases) is subtracted from the team or team member's ranking. For example, if you ranked the jackknife as #10, the difference for that item would be "7". The differences for all the items are then added up to determine the final score. The lower the score, the better the individual or team's solution. Correct rankings are available from Human Synergistics, which does not make the answers public.

In desert survival, it seems, teamwork pays off. According to Human Synergistics, teams on average score eight points better than the average individual score (which is 62.7). In fact, nearly half of the teams score better than even their most knowledgeable individuals.

In their day-to-day workings, corporate teams may not make decisions as dramatic as the ones participants must make in the Desert Survival exercise, but their decisions can impact the "life and death" of their company in the long run. As companies

The situation

It is approximately 10 a.m. in mid-July. You have just crash-landed in the desert. The light twin-engine plane, containing the bodies of the pilot and co-pilot, has completely burned. Only the airplane remains. None of the rest of you has been injured. The pilot was unable to notify anyone of your position before the crash. However, ground sightings taken before you crashed indicated that you are 65 miles off the coast from the nearest flight plan. The pilot indicated before you crashed that you were approximately 70 miles south-southwest from a phosphate mining camp, which is the nearest known habitation. The immediate area is quite flat and, except for the occasional cactus, appears to be rather barren. The last weather report indicated that the temperature within a foot of the surface of the ground will hit 42°C. You are dressed in light-weight clothing: short-sleeved shirts, pants, socks and street shoes. Everyone has a hamachiachi. Collectively, your pockets contain \$2.38 in change, \$85.00 in bills, a pack of cigarettes, and a ball-point pen. Finally, all the survivors have agreed to stick together. Here is what remains. Rank order as to importance to survival with #1 being most important through #15 being least important.

- Jackknife
- Flashlight (four-battery size)
- 1 top coat per person
- Bottle of salt tablets (1000 tablets)
- Parachute (red and white)
- 1 quart of water per person
- Compass
- 2 quarts of 150-proof vodka
- Sectional air map of the area
- Compass kit with gauge
- 45-caliber pistol (loaded)
- Plastic raincoat (large size)
- 1 pair of sunglasses per person
- Magnetic compass
- Book entitled, *Edible Animals of the Desert*

Desert Survival Situation developed by J. Clayton Lafferty, Human Synergistics Inc. Reprinted by permission. Copyright © 1974 by Human Synergistics, 39819 Plymouth Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170.

move toward flatter organizational structures and increased group participation, they are turning to human-resources consulting firms like Human Synergistics to tune-up their management teams.

When giving a team an exercise, Human Synergistics provides a few suggestions on making decisions. Foremost, it says, "Do not vote." Voting encourages "either-or" thinking, which may prevent the team from considering other aspects of the problem and objections to possible courses of action, and often leads to arguments.

Second, don't be quick to make a decision. Easy agreements are often based on erroneous assumptions that need to be challenged. Try to get underlying assumptions out into the open where they can be discussed. Listen and pay attention to what your team members have to say. Finally, remember that in this situation either the group wins or

no one wins, so don't compete among yourselves.

Top managers' worst fault in making a team decision, says Camarero, "is that they sometimes want to jump to conclusions and may make assumptions before analysing facts and getting people involved — which leads to disastrous results."

By Dr. Renate I. Mresch

A NEW study suggests that the widely held views concerning the dominating role of the big powers play with respect to conflicts occurring all over the world have to be qualified. Not only is the number of conflicts outside the big powers' immediate sphere of influence larger, but the quality of these conflicts is more severe. Furthermore, most of the conflicts carried out worldwide after 1945 did not at all involve the big powers directly. The causes that trigger a latent conflict are often amazingly and indeed terrifyingly manifold and banal. It might be the construction of a light house on an embattled island as was the case with the Beagle Canal conflict between Argentina and Chile, a soccer game as with Honduras and El Salvador, a plane crash, a border violation, election fraud or mutiny.

Statements of this nature can be drawn from a project carried out at the Universität Heidelberg designed to look quantitatively into the conditions underlying the peaceful or aggressive solutions to conflict on a world-wide scale. The framework for this project was provided by the Konflikt-simulationmodell KOSIMO (Conflict Simulation Model) developed by a research group working at the Department of Political Science. The model is derived from a data bank currently listing 1,345 conflicts that occurred in the most recent past. Each of these conflicts can be characterised by 62 features. Professor Frank R. Pfetsch reported on the project in the journal

Spektrum der Wissenschaft (May issue).

To date not one single year during the 20th century has been without some national or international conflict; neither was there a year that did not see the beginning of a new conflict. The most recent years totally free of conflict were 1889 and 1886, according to Pfetsch. All told there have been 460 conflicts all over the world since 1945, including 158 open wars, 129 serious crises, 81 crises, and 65 latent conflicts.

"A look at the values and goods that have been fought over since 1945 reveals that conflicts have broken out most often when territories, borders and changes in political systems were at stake. Other motivations that occurred frequently were the quest for power and the desire to preserve it, de-colonialisation, and the autonomy of minority groups within a larger national entity."

Most of these conflicts occurred in the areas of Northern Africa/Middle East and in Central and Southern Africa. Next on the list are South East Asia and Central America. North America and Australia did not experience any conflicts at all, and only a few of them occurred in South America.

Conflicts involving less developed countries are by far the most frequent, whereas relatively few conflicts broke out between less developed countries and Western industrialised countries,

between COMECON countries and Western industrialised countries, or between COMECON countries and less developed countries. Only a small part of all conflicts recorded after World War II were carried out using armed forces.

During the same time frame mediation efforts involving international organisations such as the United Nations or governmental or non-governmental organisations were attempted in 61 per cent of all non-belligerent con-

1945 reveals that conflicts have broken out most often when territories, borders and changes in political systems were at stake. Other motivations that occurred frequently were the quest for power and the desire to preserve it, de-colonialisation, and the autonomy of minority groups within a larger national entity.

The subject of quarrels is not the same everywhere in the world. In post-war Europe the primary issues were the establishment of political regimes (Eastern Europe) as well as border conflicts and questions of national sovereignty (such as in the conflict between Sweden and the Soviet Union over the so-called White Zone in the Baltic Sea). On the African continent south of the Maghreb region the issues most frequently at stake were positions of domestic power and territorial demands; in Central and South America political systems; and in the Middle East borders, territories, and territorial waters.

The KOSIMO project was also designed to study the motives for conflicts carried out between 1942 and 1985. The classical wars in Europe were fought over pre-dominance both in Europe and beyond the continent, the latter particularly as a result of colonialist and imperialist motives and in an effort to prevent nations from gaining their independence. Economic and religious motives also came into play. Generally speaking the quest for international power has been the dominating motive for conflicts ever since the beginning of modern history.

This changed only after 1945. One tendency observed during the most recent decades, specifically those after World War II, is that the focus has shifted from international conflicts to national quarrels over the quality of regimes or positions of power. Says Pfetsch: "Domestic power conflicts have become the dominating type of conflicts in our day." At the same time, compared to the 19th century territorial demands and border issues continue to be significant motives for conflicts. Also civil wars tend to be more bloody than international military conflicts, as could be shown by a comparison between conflicts carried out domestically and internationally.

Roughly 30 per cent of all 460 conflicts occurring since 1945 were the results of other conflicts, i.e., they did not only occur once. This points to yet another finding of the KOSIMO project, namely that real solutions to the conflicts in question were relatively rarely found, not only after World War II but also throughout modern history in general. The term "real solution" implies a negotiated agreement that is brought about voluntarily, includes all parties to the conflict, and does not contain any secret preconditions. The results most frequently brought about by military conflict in modern history were open-ended military situations that left the political issues at stake unresolved. In some instances there were actual agreements or treaties, but these did not involve some of the important partners to the conflicts in question — The German Research Service.

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مكتبة الأمل

Global economic prospects spur world stock markets

NEW YORK (R) — World stock markets, which have rebounded on the outlook for global economic growth, should rise further as investors look forward to a period of moderating growth and low inflation.

The most popular gauge of Wall Street's performance, the Dow Jones industrial average, twice came within striking distance of a record close last week and most major world stock market indexes have achieved similar marks.

Profit-taking has increased as the indices close in on record levels. The Dow slipped 6.07 points Monday to 2,677.92, some 45 points below its all-time high of 2,722.42, set on Aug. 25, 1987, just two months before the crash.

British stocks also fell Monday, but stock analysts expect the markets to get over their jitters and break new ground after a period of consolidation.

"Recent economic indicators point to a slowdown in world economic growth," said Eric Sorensen, director of quantitative research at Salomon Bros. A 12-month mild growth slowdown associated with an easing in worldwide inflation pressures will provide a favourable environment for equities, he said.

A prescription of falling rates, steady profits and relatively low inflation has provided a remedy for equities markets, and investors are counting on more of the same.

"Generally the economies around the world look pretty healthy," said Robert Lawrence, senior fellow in economic studies at the Brookings Institution, a

private economic research group. "In particular, the U.S. economy looks as if it's warded off higher inflation and is prepared for reasonably steady growth. There is room for the Federal Reserve to lower interest rates."

Robert Howard, senior vice president and head of multinational finance for the Paribas Group in North America, said that as the memory of the 1987 collapse recedes, investors are focusing on lower interest rates and concluding, "let's get into equities for better returns."

Investors are also impressed with favourable political climates. In the United States, the new savings and loan rescue bill exemplifies the Bush administration's pragmatic, problem-solving orientation, Howard said.

The generally pro-business attitudes in Washington over the last decade have been reinforced in Europe by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in Britain and Chancellor Helmut Kohl in West Germany and have even influenced relatively small economies like New Zealand.

"People can look for opportunities across the markets and that gives individual markets a wide range of potential buyers," said Howard.

Japan

Investors can be sellers as well as buyers, though, and in Tokyo,

individuals and foreign investors have recently been net sellers. Tokyo's Nikkei average of 225 stocks is currently about 300 points below its record close of 34,953.87, set July 31. It closed at 34,671.62 Monday, down 41.34 points.

The Recruit Cosmos influence-peddling scandal and the resignations of Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and his successor, Sosuke Uno, were country-specific events that have crimped the Tokyo market's performance.

World political developments this year made the most noticeable impact on market activity in Hong Kong.

Hong Kong

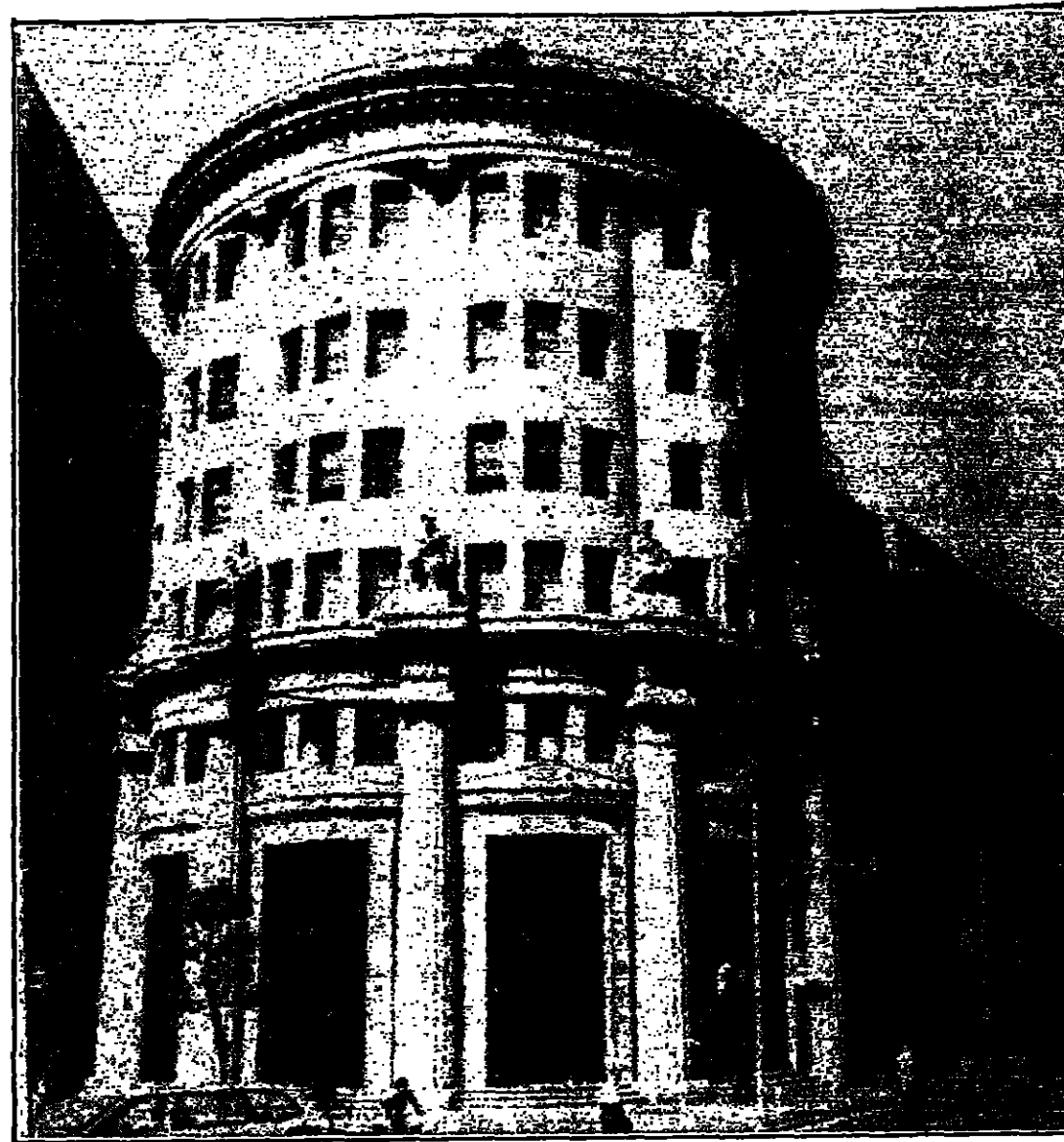
Hong Kong stocks climbed during the first half of 1989 but dropped precipitously, blighted by the killing of student protesters in Tiananmen square and by worries about the fate of Hong Kong when the British colony reverts to Chinese control in 1997.

Britain

The British stock market appears to be in a much stronger position. British corporate earnings are somewhat weaker than the 20 per cent growth enjoyed at the time of the crash, but their profitability is higher and the current earnings growth rate — 10 per cent to 15 per cent — appears more sustainable.

West Germany

In Frankfurt, foreign demand, especially from Japan, has boosted West German stocks



The Tokyo Stock Exchange building

which have moved decisively above their pre-1987 crash levels. Investors think inflation as well as domestic interest rates have peaked. They see real gross national product growth of four per cent for 1989.

France

French shares are at record highs and Paris dealers expected further gains. The key CAC general index is up 44 per cent since the 1987 crash. Dealers have noted increased demand for French stocks from foreign investors, as well as growing interest from the

Switzerland

Zurich's all-share Swiss performance index last Friday set a new closing record at 1,214.8 points, 8.6 points above its pre-1987 crash high.

High interest rates cool Britain's consumer boom

LONDON (R) — The government said Monday British retail sales fell again in July in an apparent sign that high interest rates were halting a consumer-led inflationary boom.

Figures from the Central Statistical Office (CSO) said sales declined 0.6 per cent following a 2.3 per cent fall in June.

Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson has pushed bank base interest rates up to 14 from 7.5 per cent since mid-1988 to try to slow a consumer shopping spree which sucked in imports.

Such spending has helped to build up a record trade deficit and contributed heavily to a steady rise in annual inflation to a rate of 8.3 per cent in June compared with 4.6 a year earlier.

Monday's retail sales figures confirmed signs in recent weeks that Lawson's strategy is beginning to bite despite warnings from business leaders that it could lead to recession.

The Confederation of British Industry (CBI), the main employers' organisation, said high interest rates had slowed retail sales growth almost to a standstill in July.

In another encouraging indication for Lawson, the CSO said the annual rise in factory-gate prices slowed to 4.8 per cent in July compared with five per cent in June. The price of raw materials and fuel bought by manufacturing industries fell 0.9 per cent between June and July.

The government will announce

inflation data for July Friday. Figures on July unemployment and average earnings are due out Thursday.

Economists expect July inflation to remain static but Lawson is not expected to reduce interest rates in the near future despite fears of recession.

They said that the government was concerned by the extent of pay awards higher than the rate of inflation and that Lawson would require evidence of a continuing downward trend in retail prices before relaxing the cost of borrowing.

Meanwhile, Scotch whisky to the Japanese, Wedgwood China to the Americans, fine crystal and Jaguar cars — luxury goods provide a refocus for Britain's exports.

But economists say Britain could be poised to increase exports of more everyday items and help trim a huge current account deficit which has developed over the past two years.

"For mass-produced and inexpensive manufactured goods the U.K. does seem to have a competitive advantage right now and should be able to make inroads," said Mark Franklin, economist with investment bank Credit Suisse First Boston.

Anticipated strong economic growth in Western Europe next year and more competitive sterling exchange rates should enable British producers to export more, the economists say.

But expectations that the British will not relinquish their enthusiasm for imported goods could make chances of any dramatic improvement in the current account deficit remote, they add.

Last year's boom in domestic demand sucked in imports, inflating Britain's current account deficit last year to a record £14.9 billion (almost \$24 billion at current exchange rates).

The trade gap was aggravated by a strong pound which made British goods relatively more expensive overseas. Sterling nudged \$1.90 just before Christmas last year but receded to just above \$1.50 in June and has settled in recent weeks to a range of \$1.60 to \$1.70.

Independent economists expect another record current account gap this year, anywhere from £16 to £20 billion (\$20.5 to \$32 billion).

Though British import growth is only now reaching a plateau, they say non-oil export prospects

— Britain is Western Europe's biggest oil producer — are brightening.

In June, total imports at £9.7 billion (\$15.5 billion) and exports at £7.8 billion (\$12.5 billion) were both records. The British Overseas Trade Board (BOTB) said non-oil exports climbed 16 per cent in value in the first five months of this year over the same period a year ago.

Half of all British exports go to Europe each year, and 15 per cent is shipped to the United States, according to the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

Mechanical and electrical engineering items made up about 38 per cent of Britain's total manufactured exports in 1988, while finished consumer products comprised 15 per cent, the DTI said.

Road vehicles, scientific instruments and photo equipment, and organic chemicals are also important exports.

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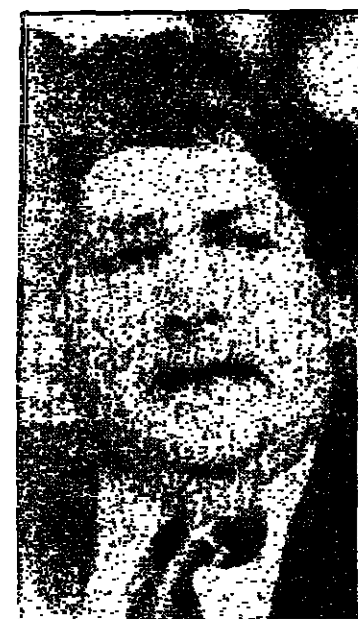
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Nigel Lawson

Bush signs farm-disaster relief bill

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President George Bush, saying "farmers have indeed suffered," Monday signed legislation providing nearly \$900 million in disaster relief for farms where crops

were battered this year by rain, drought and other foul weather. In remarks at a signing ceremony, Bush said the disaster

assistance act of 1989 brings "important relief to farm families hit by the extreme weather."

"The farmer is at the mercy of the forces of nature, and sometimes nature fails him," said the president, who persuaded Congress to trim the relief package to \$897 million from an earlier \$1.3 billion version passed by the U.S. House of Representatives.

"This act will help farmers recover after damaging rain and wind and will see others through a year when they've had to stand by and watch their crops fail," Bush said.

"The prevailing climate here in Washington is one of fiscal restraint and money's tight. And that's why it is good news that the cost of the disaster relief... is

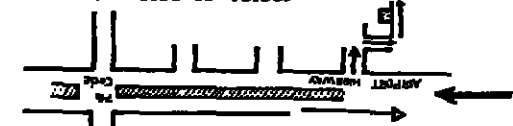
reasonable," the president said. "It will provide relief only to those farmers hardest hit by adverse weather and it wisely rewards those who took the prudent step of purchasing crop insurance," he said.

President Bush Monday named Richard Breeden, the main architect of the savings-and-loan industry rescue package signed into law last week, to be chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Legal experts said Breeden is less likely to intervene in the financial markets than current SEC Chairman David Ruder, and that the appointment signals a more free-market approach towards the markets by the regulatory agency.

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ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

ACC economic groups meet next week

BAGHDAD (Peta) — The federations of chambers of commerce and industry in the four member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries will hold a meeting in Cairo on Aug. 27, according to an announcement here Tuesday. It said that the two-day meeting will discuss the establishment of a higher council for the ACC, commerce and industry chambers with a view to promoting their operations and coordination. The coming meeting, it added, will discuss several working papers from the four countries including one that aims to adopt a unified strategy by the ACC countries.

Peruvian miners begin indefinite strike

LIMA (AP) — Mine workers walked off the job Monday, initiating an indefinite strike that cut off this impoverished nation's main single largest source of income. Early reports from mines in Peru's central Andes indicated that most of the country's 80,000 miners were honouring the walkout and that many times had shut down. The communist-led National Federation of Mine Workers called the strike to demand joint negotiations with mine owners. Currently, each company negotiates with its own workers, resulting in a wide variation in wage scale. Miners struck for twice last year for a total of nearly three months over the negotiation issue. The Mine Owners Association says the strikes cost Peru \$497 million in lost production and exports. Mining exports, which totalled \$1.2 billion last year, account for more than half the country's export earnings. The union also is seeking a minimum wage of 1.5 million intis (about \$500) for all miners, regardless of the employer. Miners in big companies currently average between \$5 and \$12 a day while small- and medium-sized mines pay between \$2 and \$6 a day.

Guyanese warn against new austerity

GEORGETOWN (AP) — Two major labour unions and the chamber of commerce have warned that more government-imposed austerity measures will result in a repeat of April's widespread strikes, food riots and arson attacks. They urged the government not to allow a visiting International Monetary Fund (IMF) team to prescribe another devaluation of Guyana's dollar and more cuts in government spending. Similar IMF-inspired austerity measures in April touched off food riots, a six-week long strike in the key bauxite and sugar industries and a wave of arson attacks against government buildings and sugarcane fields. The five-man IMF team will review the economic performance of the second quarter of 1989. The IMF has conditioned a \$300 million package to revamp Guyana's stagnant economy on measures such as cuts in government spending, increased exports and currency devaluation. President Desmond Hoyte last week told residents to brace for more austerity measures since Guyana has not met any of the IMF production targets. He blamed the poor performance on the strikes. The 70 per cent devaluation in April of the Guyanese dollar, now worth three U.S. cents, triggered a 300 per cent increase in food prices and doubled interest rates to 40 per cent. The move was aimed at curbing inflation.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Tuesday, August 15, 1989					
Central Bank official rates					
	Buy	Sell	Japanese yen (for 100)	417.8	422.0
U.S. dollar	585.2	601.2	Dutch guilder	271.1	273.8
Pound Sterling	940.6	950.0	Swedish crown	90.2	91.1
Deutschemark	305.6	308.7	Italian lire (for 100)	42.5	42.9
Swiss franc	334.4	337.9	Belgian franc (for 10)	146.2	147.7
French franc	90.5	91.4			

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

		U.S. dollars
One Sterling	1.5740/50	Canadian dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.1800/10	Deutschemark
	1.9450/60	Dutch guilders
	2.1920/30	Swiss francs
	1.6780/90	Belgian francs
	40.69/74	French francs
	6.5700/50	Italian lire
	1397/1398	Japanese yen
	142.30/40	Swedish crowns
	6.5925/75	Norwegian crowns
	7.1000/50	Danish crowns
	7.5375/5625	U.S. dollars
One ounce of gold	364.40/364.90	

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European swimming championships open

Moorhouse beats 100m record

BONN (R) — Britain's Adrian Moorhouse broke the five-year-old 100 metres breaststroke world record in an explosive opening to the defence of his title at the European Swimming Championships Tuesday.

Olympic champion Moorhouse clocked one minute 1.49 seconds in the heats to beat the 1:01.65 mark set by American Steve Lundquist at the Los Angeles Olympics on July 29, 1984.

"My time was not a surprise. I wanted to break the world record in the heats and I want to go quicker in the final tonight," Moorhouse said after his performance in the Rostock pool on the first day of the swimming programme unfolded in hot sunshine.

Moorhouse, competing in the third of the four heats, led at the turn in 29.01 seconds, outside Lundquist's record split of 28.88 and just 0.02 of a second up on perennial Soviet rival Dmitri Volkov in the adjacent lane.

The powerful Briton in lane three surged away down the second length to surpass the world record and his own European mark of 1:01.78 set in Orlando, Florida, in March 1988.

Volkov, bronze medalist behind Moorhouse in last year's Seoul Olympics, took second place in 1:01.86, with Britain's Nick Gillingham, Olympic 200 breaststroke silver medalist, third in 1:02.79.

The only current men's world

record set before Lundquist's 1984 time is the 1,500 metres freestyle mark of Vladimir Salnikov of the Soviet Union, dating back to Feb. 22, 1983.

Moorhouse was sidelined for several months when he broke a bone in his left hand in a sports car crash at Brans Hatch, England, last October.

Hungary's Karoly Guttler, beaten by Moorhouse for the Olympic title by just 0.01 of a second, failed to qualify for the final.

Guttler clocked 1:03.75, finishing second behind Dutchman Ron Dekker (1:02.75), and was joint 10th overall — too slow for the eight-strong final.

Teenage steroid confessions

TORONTO (AP) — A recent high school graduate told the Canadian national inquiry into drugs and steroid use that he had used steroids and a criminal record.

David Bain Gough, Ontario, Monday became one of the first witnesses to tell the inquiry, which was formed after the Ben Johnson scandal at the Seoul Olympics, that steroids are being used by athletes as young as high-school age.

Bain was the 85th witness before the inquiry, which started in January, had resumed for a week, and is expected to wrap up at the end of the September at a cost of nearly \$4 million.

Johnson was stripped of his

world record and gold medal in the 100 metres after testing positive for steroids at Seoul.

Bain, a football player and weightlifter who looked as if he had left his pants on under his shirt, said he first took the drugs when he was 18 "to give me some size, some strength" for the school football team.

Bain told Mr. Justice Charles Dubin that he easily obtained diamonds, one of the steroids used by Johnson, from a friend at a weight-training gym in Guelph.

Within months, Bain gained strength and 47 pounds. He said that at the time he didn't care about the harmful side effects such as aggressive behaviour, liver damage and skin disorders.

"I knew them all," he said. "It didn't really bother me."

Bain said he started spending more and more on drugs — as much as \$140 per injection — and started a self-imposed programme of "steroiding" in which he took high doses of several different steroids at the same time.

But he said he was constantly plagued by mental depression, paranoia and anger.

"All the kids who used to pick on me when I was a kid — I wished I could see them now," said Bain, who described the waves of emotion that would rush over him. "I just sit there punching my fist."

Then his anger erupted in public and Bain was charged and later convicted of assault and mischief a few months ago.

The inquiry was not told details of the charge, but the judge ordered him to stop taking steroids as a condition of his probation.

Asked by Dubin if he would stop using steroids when his probation ends, Bain said in an abrupt voice: "who knows?"

Bain, the 43rd witness to admit taking steroids to the inquiry, said he plans to attend college.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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GAMBLING WITH GAMBLING

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ A 7 3
♥ 9 7 5 4 2
♦ 9 6 2
♣ Q 5

EAST
♠ K 10 8 6 2
♥ A Q 3
♦ 8 4
♣ K 9 7

SOUTH
♠ Q 5
♥ J 6
♦ A K Q J 10 7 3
♣ J 4

The bidding:
South West North East
3 NT Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Six of ♠

Conventions come and conventions go. Some years ago, the Gambling Three No Trump Convention was very much in vogue with tournament bridge players, but today, in its original form, it has fallen on lean times. However, it still crops up from time to time, and unless the defense is on its toes, it can wreak havoc.

South's opening bid was typical of the Gambling Three No Trump, which shows a hand with a solid seven-card minor suit and not much in the side suits. Partner can gamble it out with a smattering of cards, or

he can bail out in four of the minor. Here, there's no question that he would have been wise to run to four diamonds, but he was afraid that, if he showed weakness, he might invite the opponents into the auction.

West made his normal lead of fourth-best from his longest suit. Declarer had to decide whether to take his eight fast tricks and settle for down one, or whether to try for his contract at the risk of going down about six tricks.

Since the difference between down 50 and down 300 was not calamitous, declarer decided to go for broke. He called for a low spade from dummy, and when East did not produce the king, nine tricks were there.

When an opponent opens with a gambling three no trump, you cannot afford to make a normal lead. You know that he can run at least seven tricks against you, so you have to take your tricks quickly. If you have one, you should select an ace for your opening lead, so that you could get a look at dummy.

Had West led his ace of hearts, that would have permitted the defenders, rather than declarer, to collect the first nine tricks.

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 1989
YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

by Thomas Peterson, Astrologer, Carroll Wright Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A lunar eclipse forms today during the full moon in Aquarius. This is a time when emotions tend to flare. Today idealistic, and often unbridled, opinions about people can surface and bring tension.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19): Trust in people and remain optimistic over the outcome of relationships. Remember a love affair if you are feeling lonely.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20): Assert yourself, but do not expect the impossible. Be energy-efficient and waste little on unproductive endeavors.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21): Use your talents in dealing with people. Judgment is good and well-organized. Put some of your energy into recreation.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21): You have come to realize that success is not a accident, but a result of hard work and making the right moves at the right time.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21): Acting in sports of enthusiasm can confuse others and undermine your true intentions. Keep emotions on an even keel.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22): Getting your ideas across today may be like water dripping on a rock. You will be more on target if you wait two days.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): A gentle and harmonious disposition will be your theme for the day. You may want to make yourself extra attractive to fit your mood.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Taking action that is not well thought out is ill advised. You relate best to people who have well-defined goals.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Withholding your love to control a relationship has adverse consequences. Use emotions to demonstrate your affection.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20): You have inner powers and creative resources that can be tapped. It is your nature to always succeed despite setbacks.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19): You can reap the rewards from past efforts. A project involving someone close starts to mature. Keep love ongoing and fresh.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20): Examine a new outlet for your creative enterprises. Someone boring may invade your privacy in the later day.

THE DAILY CROSSWORD by Kenneth Witte

ACROSS
1. Cold valley
5. Dull
9. Na
14. Behrman
17. Fertilizer
18. Alpine region
19. Seal
20. Healthy
21. Man symbol
24. Yugoslavian city
25. A Gabor
26. Blowing
28. — day (obvious)
29. Baseball glove
30. Coach
31. Farmington
32. Pierce with a lion
37. Sweet
41. Address
42. Zuma
43. Imaginary TV planet
44. Lab vessels
45. Like some heading west?
46. Intersection of scores
48. In a pig's — (sweat)
49. Chemical suffix
50. Part animal
51. Support accuracy
52. Multitude
53. Pond plant
54. Gestic
55. — stone
56. Property claim
57. Celebration
58. Legal papers
59. Laid
60. Pached horse

DOWN
1. "Discovery"
2. War deity
3. Chateau
4. Suburbs
5. War of words
6. Brought up
7. Ind. state
8. — up (strength)
9. Ball park
10. Perfect vision?
11. Seed covering
12. Area, city
13. Chicken —
14. Clipped
15. Stuffed
16. Relative
17. Set firmly
18. Country
19. Home
20. For
21. Mary a soul
22. Duck out
23. Fast
24. Kind of snake
25. Inquire
26. Musical group
27. Work unit
28. Ind. leader
29. Lays to rest
30. National problem
31. Ford city
32. Out-and-out
33. Misrepresent
34. The and
35. Type of china
36. Sea bird
37. Foyer
38. Campus go-
39. Ford city
40. Harvest
41. Connected

Next opponent likely to be Douglas

Tyson offered \$100m

NEW YORK (AP) — Heavyweight champion Mike Tyson's next opponent is likely to be James "Buster" Douglas, probably in October, a spokesman for promoter Don King said Monday.

"It looks that way, that Douglas is the guy, but nothing has been signed yet," spokesman Al Braverman said.

The site and exact date have yet to be determined although Braverman said the Las Vegas Hilton has the right of first refusal for the fight.

King is expected to hold a news conference Tuesday, Braverman said.

Tyson's manager, Bill Cayton, said Tyson could fight Douglas or former champion Michael Dokes. Cayton must approve all opponents for Tyson.

"It could be," Cayton said when asked whether Douglas is next in line for a shot at Tyson. "I

have no problems with either Dokes or Douglas. I've given approval for both, but I thought Dokes was going to be first, some time in October."

Tyson is 37-0 with 33 knockouts. His last fight was July 21, when he knocked out Carl "The Truth" Williams in 93 seconds.

"We have agreed to the terms and the conditions for the fight," Douglas' manager, John Johnson, told the Columbus Dispatch in an article published Monday. "The contract should be signed within 48 hours."

Johnson made his comments after returning from a weekend meeting with King.

"I am ready for it," Douglas said. "Ever since May of 1987, I've been waiting it... it has been a long time coming, but it's here."

Johnson said Douglas will earn more than \$1 million. The Dispatch said Tyson would be

guaranteed at least \$5 million. Douglas was stopped in the 10th round of his scheduled 12-round International Boxing Federation championship fight against Tony Tucker on May 21, 1988. Tucker later lost a 12-round decision to Tyson for the undisputed world championship.

Tyson also was offered \$5 million Monday by a Sports promotions firm to make a year-long world tour that would include a title fight each month. Winners Worldwide Inc., which promotes snooker and soccer as well as British rock bands, said the tour would start in the United States and move to Europe and Japan before finishing in Brooklyn, Mass., birthplace of the late Rocky Marciano, the only heavyweight champion to retire unbeaten.

Spokesman Stephen Jones said the company had sent information about its offer to King.

Victory after victory... but Tyson's running out of opponents

Evans deepens criticism of Australian apartheid tourists

CANBERRA (AP) — Foreign Minister Gareth Evans mounted fresh criticism Tuesday of Australian Rugby Union officials, saying "ignorance and indifference" led to their support of rugby tour of South Africa.

Evans said officials of the Australian Rugby Union (ARU) were destroying Australia's credibility on its position of opposing South African apartheid or policies of racial segregation.

He also said the officials have now potentially jeopardised Australia's hopes of participating in the Commonwealth Games next year — and threatening Melbourne's chances of hosting the 1996 Olympic Games.

Six Australian rugby players and at least two senior officials will take part in the South African tour, despite repeated pleas from the government that they

abandon their plans.

The six Australian players have already headed to South Africa, along with former Australian coach Bob Templeton. The players are Bill Campbell, Ian Williams, Mark Hartill, Tom Lawton, Rod McCall and Greg Martin.

The tour, officially sanctioned by the international rugby board, has nonetheless attracted widespread criticism. Several international athletic organisations forbid play in South Africa because of apartheid.

The invitation team is to play five games over the next three weeks, including two unofficial tests against South Africa, to mark the centenary of the South African Rugby Board.

"What has appalled me is the degree of apparent ignorance of the situation on the ground in

South Africa or, if not ignorance then indifference, to the implications of Australian players going over there," Evans said in an interview with the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

He said the action proved the indifference such a tour would have for other Australian athletes.

The federal government wrote Monday to the ARU complaining it appeared to have breached its own guidelines by directly helping to organise a tour "by stealth" of South Africa.

On Tuesday, Prime Minister Bob Hawke rejected a suggestion that government funding be cut to the sport of Rugby Union in retaliation for supporting the World XV tour to South Africa. He said such action could be detrimental.

Ricky Berry kills himself after row

SACRAMENTO, California (AP) — Ricky Berry, the Sacramento Kings' top draft pick last year, shot himself in the head and died at his suburban home following an argument with his wife, authorities said Monday.

Valerie Berry found her husband's body at 9:45 a.m. local time (1645 GMT) Monday in the family room of their new house, said Ed Close, a spokesman for the Sacramento County sheriff's department. The gun and a suicide note were found at the scene, he said.

The 24-year-old forward had argued with his wife Sunday and she spent the night elsewhere, sheriff's Sgt. Jim Whitwell said. There was no immediate in-

dication when Berry died, but a neighbor reportedly heard a gunshot at 9:35 a.m. and called police.

The Berry's had lived in the house about three weeks and were still settling in, Whitwell said.

Berry's father, Bill, who coached his son in college and is now a Kings scout, and Bill Russell, Kings vice president and former coach, arrived at the player's home shortly before the body was removed by the coroner's office.

"We are profoundly shocked and saddened at the tragic ending of the life of Ricky Berry," said Gregg Lukenbill, the Kings' managing general partner.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

AMERICAN LEAGUE RESULTS: Results from American League games played Monday night are as follows: Orioles 4, Tigers: Blue Jays 4, Red Sox 2; Brewers 5, Yankees 4; White Sox 4, Royals 3; Twins 6, Angels 3. (AP)

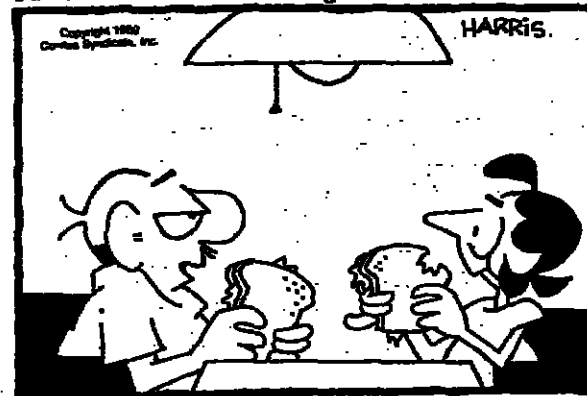
OVETT NAMES OFFICIAL HE SAYS MADE OFFER: Steve Ovett Monday in London named British athletics promotions officer Andy Norman as the official who had offered him money which led to his fearful television outbreak following his 1,500 metres defeat by Sebastian Coe Sunday. "Andy Norman made the approach to me by telephone," Ovett said in another television interview 24 hours after breaking down before millions of viewers at the English championships. "He has emphatically denied that now and it is a case of my word against his," said the former 800 metres Olympic champion. "He is firmly entrenched with government body and that is what I am trying to fight against. When someone is that entrenched I am not sure where an athlete stands. I know I stand to lose a lot whilst this man goes on and on." (R)

NUNN RETAINS IBF MIDDLEWEIGHT: Michael Nunn, mixing boxing with punching, retained the International Boxing Federation middleweight title on a 12-round majority decision over aggressive Iran Barkley Monday night at the Lawlor events centre in Nevada. Nunn, sometimes counter-punching, sometimes sticking and moving, sometimes mixing it up inside, seemed to clearly have the upper hand yet the three judges saw it as a close fight. Barkley came forward throughout the fight and threw an assortment of punches, which ripped a cut over Nunn's eye on the lower lip. But he stayed on his feet and landed some of his best punches in the late rounds. Judge Keith Watson scored the fight 114-114. Judge Art Lurie of Las Vegas scored it 115-113, and Glen Hamada of Washington, had it 115-113, both for Nunn, who now has won all 34 of his pro fights. (AP)

BRAZIL PROTESTS GAME AGAINST CHILE: Brazil filed a formal protest to the International Federation of Association Football in the wake of a national soccer team tied Chile 1-1 in a controversial World Cup qualifying match in Santiago. Eusebio Miranda, Head of soccer at the Brazilian Soccer Confederation, said in Rio De Janeiro he protested Monday to the federation, known as FIFA for its French initials, over the game's refereeing and the treatment the team received at Santiago's stadium on Sunday. "I hope FIFA takes measures to prevent games being held in the stadium and has future games held on neutral field," Miranda was quoted as saying on TV. Brazil's largest television network. The greatest point of contention came when Colombian referee Jesus Diaz Palacio called a foul against Brazil's goalie Taffarel with Brazil leading 1-0 late in the game. While Brazil's players argued the call, Chilean midfielder Aravena grabbed the ball from Taffarel and passed to teammate Basay, who kicked the ball into the net. (AP)

THE BETTER HALF.

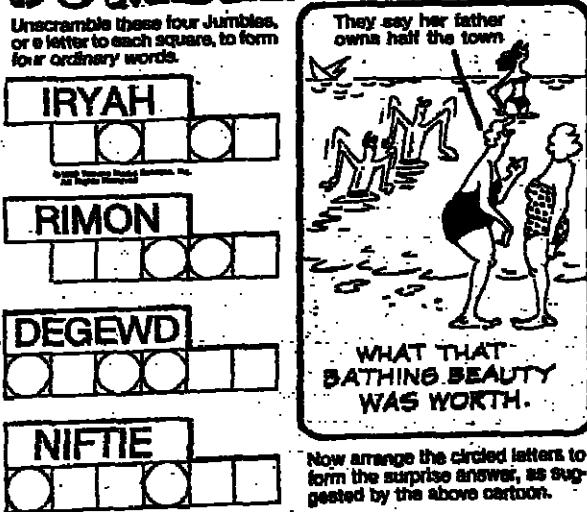
By Harris



"Regular tuna is 99 cents a can. Cat tuna is 59 cents a can. Guess which one I bought!"

JUMBLE.

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

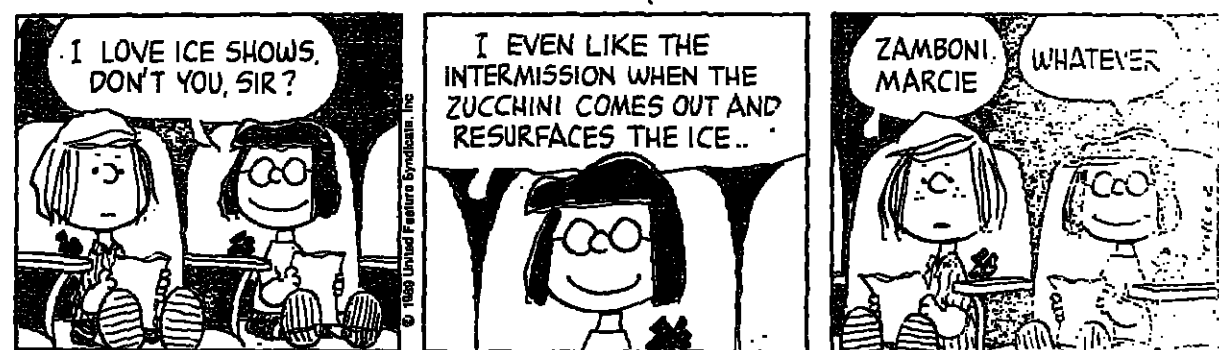


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: (Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumble: DAUNT HAVOC ASSAIL LEGACY
Answer: There would be fewer cases of love at first sight, if less were more people gifted with the SECOND SIGHT

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



De Klerk sworn in after Botha's unceremonious exit

PRETORIA (AP) — National Party leader F.W. de Klerk was sworn in Tuesday as acting president after leading a cabinet delegation that forced President P.W. Botha to resign from 11 years of rule.

De Klerk, a 53-year-old lawyer and education minister under Botha's rule, was sworn in at the Union buildings where the government has its administrative offices.

The new leader held a news conference immediately after taking the oath of office and praised Botha as one of South Africa's greatest leaders.

"His greatest gift to South Africa is the fact that he has put our country on the road to fundamental reform, that he has successfully started pulling South Africa out of its dead-end streets," de Klerk said.

During his 11-year rule, Botha initiated South Africa's first halting steps toward reform of its policies of fierce racial segregation, known as apartheid in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

First in English and then in Afrikaans, de Klerk swore to "promote that which will adv-

ance, and to oppose all that may harm the republic, to obey, observe, uphold and maintain the constitution."

The swearing-in came after Foreign Minister Pik Botha announced that the cabinet had unanimously designated de Klerk as acting president.

De Klerk will remain in the interim post until after Sept. 6 parliamentary elections in which he is expected to be chosen president for a five-year term.

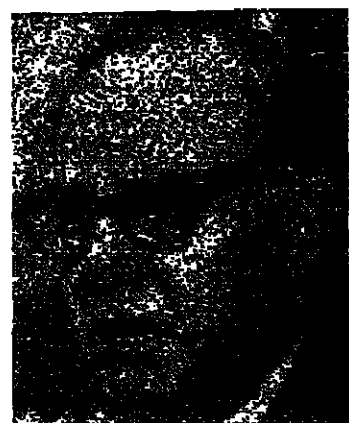
De Klerk became South Africa's acting president only a day after he and the other cabinet members forced the resignation of P.W. Botha.

The cabinet members told the 73-year-old Botha, who suffered a stroke Jan. 18, to use his health as an excuse for resigning 23 days before the crucial elections.

But the defiant Botha said his health was not the issue.

"I am not prepared to leave on a lie," Botha said he told the cabinet.

Botha showed no emotion or signs of ill health when reading his 20-minute resignation statement Monday night from a desk at his official residence in Cape



F.W. de Klerk

Town. "After all these years of my best efforts for the National Party, and for the government of this country as well as the security of our country, I am being ignored by ministers serving in my cabinet," Botha said.

His pre-recorded statement was given entirely in Afrikaans, without subtitles, an action considered an insult to English-speaking National Party supporters.

De Klerk, education minister under Botha, and other cabinet

members expressed more sympathy for Botha after his resignation speech than several newspapers.

"We are heartsore that a man who did so much for his country...should have to retire in such circumstances," de Klerk said in a television interview broadcast Monday night after Botha's resignation speech.

De Klerk also defended himself against accusations made by Botha in his resignation speech. Botha's resignation Monday night "was in the best interest of South Africa," said de Klerk.

But the Beeld newspaper, a longtime supporter, declared, "The last image that will linger for many years is that of a blind Samson who with his last strength tried to overturn the pillars of his party."

Business Day of Johannesburg called the outgoing president a "domineering bully of vile temper and vengeful instincts."

The banned United Democratic Front, the country's largest anti-apartheid coalition, said the leadership change would make little difference to South Africa's 28 million blacks.

Davao hostage drama ends in violence

DAVAO CITY, Philippines (AP) — Government soldiers Tuesday stormed a jail where 16 inmates had been holding a female Australian missionary and 14 other people hostage, and at least 21 people died, officials said.

The soldiers attacked the prison on about five hours after the convicts tried to flee the metropolitan district Command Detention Centre, using the hostages as human shields, officials said.

At least one 16-year-old female hostage and the leader of the convicts were killed during the attempted prison break, but five hostages escaped, officials said.

The 15 remaining inmates retreated back to the jail compound after the attempted escape and all were killed later when the soldiers stormed the prison, officials said.

Four other hostages were found dead after the soldiers stormed the prison, including the Australian missionary, authorities said. But it was unclear if they were killed in the assault or whether some were slain by their captors after the attempted breakout.

The hostages, including missionary Jacqueline Hamill, 36, of Sydney, Australia, were seized Sunday during religious services at the downtown jail in this city, 960 kilometres southeast of Manila.

Major Antonio Inciong, of the military's Civil Relations Service, said Hamill and the other women had been sexually molested by their captors.

Cecilia So, a nurse at Davao Doctors' Hospital, said Hamill was pronounced dead on arrival after the assault. Hamill had begun work in Davao City last month.

All the hostages were members of the Joyful Assemblies of God, a charismatic Protestant group that conducted a prison ministry.

Military and civilian negotiators had been holding talks with the inmates since late Sunday in an effort to resolve the crisis without bloodshed.

The inmates, including convicted murderers, asked for a getaway vehicle and gave authorities until 4 p.m. (0800 GMT) Tuesday to meet their demand.

But at about 10 a.m. (0200 GMT) Tuesday, the inmates announced they were leaving the detention centre with their prisoners, said military spokesman Major Wilfredo Garcia.

"The hostage-takers started firing when they broke out," Garcia said. "Heavy firing ensued."

Uprising leader Mohammed Naser Samparani, a former air force soldier serving a 27-year sentence for murder, was killed in the attempted getaway, along with the 16-year-old hostage, Julieta Verzosa.

After the first burst of gunfire, the inmates remained holed up inside the compound until the soldiers attacked, officials said.

Before the assault, reporters could see four bodies — three male and one female — stacked up in the area controlled by the inmates. It appeared the four had been slain after the failed breakout.



One of the journalists being held by a masked kidnapper at gunpoint

Brazilian kidnappers free hostages, escape in plane

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — Four heavily armed fugitives who led police on a 10-day chase through Brazil freed three hostages and flew to Paraguay in a plane provided by authorities, according to local media reports.

Brazil's O Globo newspaper said Monday police in the Paraguayan city of Ciudad del Este arrested two men after the fugitives' plane landed at Hernandarias airport, about 32 kilometres from the border. The men were not identified.

Neither Paraguayan officials nor Brazil's air force ministry could immediately confirm the report.

The drama began Aug. 3 when nine-year-old Said Agel Filho was abducted in front of his home in the central Brazilian city of Goiânia, 1,400 kilometres north-west of Rio.

Six days later, police traced a phone call from the kidnappers to the boy's family and surrounded a house on the city's outskirts. The kidnappers negotiated a ransom of about \$42,000 and an armoured car to escape.

Three adults, including two television news reporters, then offered to exchange places with the boy, and the kidnappers accepted.

The kidnappers, identified as two married couples, headed for the Goiânia airport, but authorities there refused to give them a plane and pilot. The kidnappers then set off on a 800-kilometre trip through the states of Goiás, Minas Gerais and São Paulo.

To eat, one kidnapper stepped out of the car holding a pistol to a captive's head.

The hostages were released unharmed Sunday after authorities in Presidente Prudente, 1,000 kilometres southwest of Rio, provided the kidnappers with a plane and a pilot.

"I lived for four days with a pistol at my head but not for one minute did I believe I would die," said released hostage Monica Calassa. "A person who trades their life for that of another's can't die like that."

A police spokesman, Nivaldo de Pironi, told the AP the pilot who flew the getaway plane was

Aniceto de Oliveira Gomes, a rancher and a local mayor. De Pironi said a second unidentified man accompanied Gomes on the plane.

Brazilian press reports said the group planned to fly to Paraguay where their leader, identified as Rui Ribeiro de Campos, owns a farm.

Several previous attempts to negotiate the hostage's release in exchange for getaway transportation for the kidnappers ended in failure.

A plane promised by police Friday developed mechanical troubles and was forced to land in a nearby field.

On Saturday, police Friday developed mechanical troubles and was forced to land in a nearby field.

On Saturday, police agreed to supply a helicopter and pilot to fly the kidnappers to Paraguay. But the plan collapsed at the last minute when the pilot refused to fly the craft after the kidnappers demanded they carry submachine guns, hand grenades, pistols and shotguns aboard.

Belfast's ghetto children play the games of war

By Paul Majendie
Reuters

BELFAST — For 12-year-old Christopher, Monday's riot was a good one — he picked up five plastic bullets to add to his souvenir collection.

"I've got over 200 of them now," he said as he picked through the remains of a truckload of frozen chickens turned into a blazing barbecue by petrol bombs.

Police, on full alert as nationalists angrily marked the 20th anniversary of the deployment of British troops in Northern Ireland, fired plastic bullets to disperse teenage demonstrators in a dawn riot Monday.

Christopher was woken early but was not complaining. He and his friends in the Ballymurphy estate were out in the early morning light hunting for plastic bullets on the blackened road.

To the soldiers who patrol

the bombed-out and gutted ghetto and fear an Irish Republican Army (IRA) sniper's bullet at every corner, Ballymurphy estate is known as "Belfast's Beirut."

Christopher's 10-year-old friend Jim said with undisguised enthusiasm: "There'll be plenty more rioting again tonight. There'll be more petrol bombs."

Like miniature vultures they picked through the charred chickens and, waving a blacked-out car, quipped to reporters: "Want to buy one for two Bob (ten pence)?"

Ghetto children, revelling in all the attention as the international media poured into Belfast for the anniversary, posed for photos on the smouldering lorry.

Some swirled down the street from burning tyres, stray dogs sniffed out an extra meal and teenagers clutching cans of beer and cider stood idly watching.

Some children offered to sell

plastic bullets to reporters as souvenirs. Christopher scorned that idea. "I keep all mine, maybe give some away."

Last week 15-year-old Seamus Duffy was fatally wounded by a plastic bullet in a night of rioting. He was the 17th person to be killed by them in 20 years.

The media image of young children hurling stones at armoured cars on the streets of Belfast has been all too familiar over the past two decades since British troops began patrolling the streets to separate warring Roman Catholics and Protestants.

At the height of the troubles in the early 1970s, teenagers would riot in the day and be home in the evening in time to watch themselves on television.

But what would become of Christopher, whose whole life had been lived in the ghetto?

"I am going to join the IRA," was the answer he gave without a moment's hesitation.

U.N. assails Hong Kong treatment of boat people

HONG KONG (AP) — The top U.N. refugee official in Hong Kong said Tuesday Vietnamese refugees in the colony's teeming detention centres are in danger of dying because of malnutrition and disease.

Robert van Leeuwen, speaking on the government-run radio, called for better food and "a massive immunisation campaign" for boat people being housed on an outlying island and on five ferries in Hong Kong's harbour.

Meanwhile, 124 Vietnamese refugees, convinced that their quest for a new life is over, have volunteered to return to the country they fled.

The group, ranging from elderly women to four babies, is scheduled to fly to Vietnam Thursday. Their departure will mark the biggest repatriation of boat people since the first group left in March.

Van Leeuwen based his statements on a preliminary report by U.N. officials about camps housing 6,700 of Hong Kong's 51,000 boat people.

Van Leeuwen said large numbers of children in a camp at Tai Chau Island and on the ferries were suffering from "borderline malnutrition," although he did not say how many.

"When you have a population which has become weakened through below-standard levels of nutrition, they become very vulnerable to an outbreak of disease which could have life-threatening consequences," he said. "They cannot be expected to continue much longer with the diet provided."

Van Leeuwen's statement is one of several recent criticisms by U.N. officials of Hong Kong's handling of the boat people crisis.

Last week, another U.N. official said the camps in Hong Kong were some of the worst he had seen.

"The space is less than the space given to people in prison here," said Omar Bakhet, head of the technical support unit in Hong Kong for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. "It is even less than what

is supposed to be given here for a dog."

The U.N. organisation earlier alleged that police beat more than 100 boat people during a July 23 disturbance at a detention centre in the New Territories of Hong Kong.

Opposition to the refugees is growing in this crowded colony of five million. Residents of one village have organised protests and sit-ins against a planned camp near the High Island reservoir in the new territories.

The opposition was evident Tuesday when reporters were taken to the Lo Wu detention centre near the Chinese border to speak with some of the voluntary returnees.

Posters reading "Say no to Viet" and "No more Viet" lined the entrance to the camp. Inside the camp, an old army post, children and women in ragged clothing looked out through barbed-wire fences. Vietnamese men in T-shirts smiled and asked for cigarettes.

Bomb rocks Srinagar on Indian independence day

NEW DELHI (R) — A powerful bomb wounded at least 25 people in Srinagar, summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir state Tuesday, India's independence day.

The United News of India (UNI) said a series of bombs were exploded by suspected separatists in the Srinagar valley as the country celebrated the 42nd anniversary of its independence from Britain.

In New Delhi, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, surrounded by heavy security, attacked his opponents, calling some of them traitors who wanted to divide the country.

In a speech reminiscent of election rhetoric, Gandhi ploughed into his opponents and evoked memories of his mother Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, shot dead in October 1984 by her Sikh bodyguards.

Gandhi, who came to power on a massive sympathy vote after her assassination, faces election in four months.

UNI said a series of bombs exploded in Srinagar and one in the city centre wounded 25 people. Another ripped through the

garage of Jammu and Kashmir State Congress (I) Chief Shafi Qureshi.

On Monday, separatists fighting for the secession of Muslim-majority Kashmir from India hoisted the Pakistani flag from telephone and electric poles to celebrate its national day.

Two-thirds of Kashmir, over which India and Pakistan have fought two wars since independence, is under India's control.

Gandhi, speaking from the ramparts of the 300-year-old Moghul fort in the heart of old Delhi, said: "Traitors are supporting their killers and even accepting swords as an honour (from Sikh militants)."

"Dishonest forces are rising in the country. Dogmatism is still alive. Traitors can still roam and may even be present in parliament," he said.

Gandhi said his mother had done everything to strengthen the country when there was an attempt to break it up but she had to sacrifice her life for the forces of divisiveness.

"I remember four-and-a-half or five years ago when she was

killed we were going through a period with dark clouds hovering over the country," he said.

"They robbed me of my mother but I was determined not to allow a break up of the country whatever the sacrifice... if she taught me anything it was that no sacrifice was too big for the country even if it meant sacrificing one's life."

Before he began the nationally televised address, Gandhi ordered removal of a bullet-proof screen from behind which he was to speak.

Police, fearing attacks by Sikh separatists in the capital, set up road blocks all over the city and sharpshooters occupied buildings near the Red Fort.

Gandhi did not name any political party but lambasted the opposition and accused them of attempting to block a bill in parliament which seeks to give powers to village councils.

"In the last four of five years India has made tremendous progress. The darkness of October 1984 has dispersed and we see the light of progress," he said of his own record in office.

Britain, Argentina hold first diplomatic talks since war

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — For the first time since the 1982 Falklands war, British and Argentine officials are discussing the restoration of diplomatic and trade ties, officials said.

Argentina's willingness to defer discussion of its claim to the Falkland Islands, which it calls the Malvinas, led to the breakthrough.

U.N. and other officials, speaking Monday on condition of anonymity, said diplomats from the British and Argentine U.N. delegations are meeting privately this week in New York.

"We cannot deny that the situation is very dynamic, and something could happen in the next few days or weeks," one said privately.

None of the officials would provide details of the talks or speculate on their outcome.

Carlos Saul Menem, who was inaugurated in July as Argentina's new president, dropped his country's insistence that Argentina's claim to the islands be the first step in any talks.

Britain's position on the islands has always been that its inhabi-

tants must decide their status. About 2,000 British sheepherders and their descendants inhabit the islands, and they express almost unanimous preference for continuing their colonial relationship with Great Britain.

Other issues linking Britain and Argentina have been sidelined by the sovereignty dispute for seven years.

As Argentina's financial plight deepened and the country was strangled by inflation and recession, the belief grew that the invasion of the islands had been a mistake and the issue should not block normal relations with Britain.

Argentina also is looking inward dealing with the unified European Community (EC) in 1992. Britain is one of the major members of the new Euror market.

Argentina officials have banned British products from its markets, but quietly allows them into the country through third nations.

Britain banned Argentine products after the Falklands war, but later lifted the ban.

Menem's government would also like to recover fishing rights

in the area around the Falklands. Britain currently enforces a 240-kilometre exclusion zone. Many nations fish the largely unregulated areas just outside the zone, and both Britain and Argentina want to reach an accord on exploiting the south Atlantic fisheries.

Since the former military government of Argentina invaded the Falklands in April 1982, London and Buenos Aires have had no direct diplomatic relations. After Argentina's invasion, Britain sent part of its naval fleet to recapture them. The six-week war claimed almost 1,000 lives.

Britain now has only an interest section that operates under the Swiss flag, and Argentina is operating under the Brazilian flag.

The current private meetings are the first direct contacts between the two sides since the war.

British and Argentine diplomats at the U.N. are accustomed to working together and took the lead in the talks, which are not under U.N. auspices, said U.N. officials.

COLUMN

Asia, Iran films sweep awards

LOCARNO, Switzerland (AP) — South Korean painter-producer-director Yoon Kyun Bae has won the top prize of the 1989 Locarno Film Festival for his film "Why Bodhi Dharma Left for the Orient." The international jury awarded the film the Golden Leopard for what reviewers hailed as a vivid and poetic masterpiece. The silver Leopard went to "The Birth" (Piravi), an ode to paternal love by Indian director Shaji N. Karun. An Iranian entry, "Where is the House of my Friend?" by Abbas Kiarostami won the first of three bronze Leopards.

Violin just won't do for judge

TISBURY, Massachusetts (AP) — Acclaimed violinist Eugene Fodor Jr. was jailed after a judge refused to accept his 300-year-old violin to guarantee bail on charges of drug possession and breaking into a motel room. Fodor was held over the weekend on breaking-and-entering and cocaine possession charged after being arrested Thursday in a motel room in Martha's Vineyard, a popular seaside resort, said Tisbury Police Sergeant Justin Welch. On Friday, an Edgartown district judge set bail at \$50,000 and refused to accept the violin. Fodor, 39, gained fame in 1974 when he became the first American to share top honours at the Tchaikovsky violin competition in Moscow, and he has recorded for RCA. A family member in New York City, who spoke Sunday on condition of anonymity, said "The only explanation I can think of is that he does everything in a thorough way...he's very intense in whatever he does." Chambermaids making early morning rounds noticed someone in a room that was listed as unoccupied, said a manager at the Vineyard Harbour Motel who declined to give his name. When they asked where he came from he slammed the door. Motel workers called police and Fodor was arrested.

Police asked to donate sperm

HONG KONG (R) — Hong Kong's sperm banks are running so low family planners have asked local police to step forward and donate. "According to traditional Chinese thought, the idea of donating sperm is very difficult to accept," said Wong Kwun-Sing, assistant director of the Family Planning Association. Wong said the police were ideal. "They are predominantly Chinese male and they are very well organised when it comes to community services," he said. "We are very big donors at the local blood bank," said police spokesman Terry Cooke Monday. "But I don't think we've ever had this sort of request before."

Eastwood wins libel damages

LONDON (R) — Britain's weekly tabloid, The News of the World, said Sunday it had agreed to pay a large sum in libel damages to U.S. actor Clint Eastwood, one of Hollywood's highest earning film stars. The amount of damages was not disclosed and Eastwood, famous for his roles as a laconic western "tough guy," said he would donate the money to charity. A statement agreed between Eastwood, 59, and News Group newspaper, which owns the News of the World, said the newspaper had apologised unreservedly to the actor for libellous articles published July 9 under the headline "Go on Clint, Make my Day."

Global weather (major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	WIND
AMSTERDAM	15	20	02 Cloudy
ATHENS	22	32	03 Clear
BAHRAIN	29	34	03 Clear
BANGKOK	24	33	04 Rain
BELGIUM	15	23	03 Clear
CAIRO	22	31	03 Clear
CHICAGO	10	20	03 Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	16	21	03 Cloudy
FRANKFURT	14	20	03 Clear
GENOVA	20	28	04 Clear
HONG KONG	26	33	01 Clear
ISTANBUL	22	31	03 Clear
LONDON	16	21	03 Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	19	28	03 Clear
MADRID	20	28	04 Clear
MEXICO	19	28	02 Clear
MONTREAL	11	22	02 Cloudy
MOSCOW	11	22	04 Clear
NEW DELHI	27	31	03 Clear
NEW YORK	22	31	03 Rain
PARIS	19	27	01 Clear
ROME	07	18	01 Clear
SEOUL	25	30	01 Clear
SYDNEY	13	21	03 Clear

